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THE TRAGEDY OF
MARIAM
1613

THE MALONE SOCIETY
REPRINTS

1914

It is directed by E. C. "To Dianaes Earthlie Depvttesse, and my worthy Sister, Mistris Elizabeth Carye". This copy has successively belonged to Mr. Bright, Mr. Holgate, and Mr. Corser.' It is to be observed that the leaf in question is an insertion, for the title forms the real A 1 of the volume.

The sonnet is not reproduced in the Catalogue, but the following communication from W. Carew Hazlitt appeared in 'Notes and Queries' for 9 Sept. 1865 (3 Ser. viii. 203): 'In examining some old books and MSS., for a different purpose, I came across a copy of *The Tragedy of Mariam, the Fair Queen of Jewry*, 1613, by Lady E. Carew, with a dedication which I never met with before in copies of this drama, as follows —

"TO DIANAES
EARTHLIE DEPVTESSE,
and my worthy Sister, Mistris
Elizabeth Carye.

"When cheerfull *Phæbus* his full course hath run,
His Sister's fainter Beams our harts doth cheere,
So your faire Brother is to mee the Sunne;
And you, his Sister, as my Moone appeare.

"You are my next belou'd, my second Friend,
For when my *Phæbus* absence makes it Night,
Whilst to th' *Antipodes* his beams do bend,
From you, my *Phæbe*, shines my second Light.

"Hee, like to SOL, cleare-sighted, constant, free,
You, LVNA-like, vnspotted, chaste, deuine:
Hee shone on *Sicily*; you destin'd bee
T' illumine the now obscurd *Palestine*.
My first was consecrated to *Apollo*,
My second to DIANA now shall follow.

E. C."

This sonnet has often, as in the Huth Catalogue, been taken as gratulatory, that is, as addressed by a friend to the author, but in the absence of very strong evidence to the contrary we are bound to assume that the E. C. of the title-page and the E. C. of the sonnet refer to the same person.

All, therefore, that we are able immediately to infer is that the play was written by a lady whose initials were E. C. and who had a 'sister', Mistress Elizabeth Carye.

The fact that this extra leaf is only known to occur in one copy out of the many extant necessitates our supposing that only a very small portion of the edition ever had it. Either it is to be regarded as an insertion made in a few presentation copies only, or else as an afterthought added after the bulk of the edition had already been sold.

The play apparently figures in Rogers and Ley's list in 1656 as 'Mariamne Tragedy'. It will be observed that the form of the name here given agrees with that in the Stationers' Register—a curious coincidence. Though not used apparently by English writers at this time, it must have been known to a certain class of students as occurring in the Latin translations of Josephus: it is very rare in the Greek texts (see Niese's edition, Berlin, 1887). In 1656 likewise appeared Archer's catalogue, which contains the earliest ascription of our play: 'Mariame T[ragedy]. Lady Eliz Carew'. This was copied in Kirkman's lists; 'Mariame' becoming 'Mariam' in 1661, and 'Marian' in 1671. Since the name is spelt 'Carew' in the lists and 'Carey' in the dedication, the probability is that the former drew not from the latter, but from an inscription on the title of some copy in Archer's stock. Such old inscriptions are notoriously untrustworthy, and little authority can be attached to the statement in the lists.

It happens, however, to be perfectly correct. The play and the dedication were alike written by Lady Elizabeth Carey, or Cary, wife of Sir Henry Cary, who became Viscount Falkland in 1620. This appears from certain verses in the *Muses' Sacrifice* by John Davies of Hereford printed in 1612, but apparently not entered in the Stationers' Register. This work is dedicated to three ladies of whom one is 'Elizabeth, Lady Cary, (Wife of S^r Henry Cary:)', and to her the author writes

11

Thou mak'st Melpomen proud, and my heart great
of such a Pupill, who, in Buskin fine,
With Feete of State, dost make thy Muse to mete
the scenes of Syracuse and Palestine.

These lines, taken in conjunction with the dedicatory sonnet already printed, afford satisfactory evidence that Davies is addressing the author of *Mariam*. That the later Viscountess Falkland is intended is also clear, for though there were several Lady Elizabeth Carys, and several Sir Henry Carys, there appears to have been but one Lady Elizabeth who was the wife of a Sir Henry. The material portions of Davies' dedication will be found printed at the end of the present introduction.

If Lady Elizabeth Cary was the E. C. of the sonnet, who was the Mistress Elizabeth Carey? Sir Henry Cary, later Viscount Falkland, had a sister Elizabeth, to whom the designation would of course apply, but it appears that she married Sir John Savile on 20 Nov. 1586, when the author of *Mariam* must have been still in her cradle. But Sir Henry also had a rather obscure brother Philip, who was knighted sometime between March 1605 and April 1609, and this Philip married a certain Elizabeth Bland of Carleton, Yorks. This lady must then have been the Mistress Elizabeth Cary to whom *Mariam* is dedicated.

The history therefore stands as follows. In the year 1600 Elizabeth Tanfield, only child of Lawrence Tanfield of Burford Priory, Oxford, later Sir Lawrence Tanfield and Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, became Lady Cary, wife of Sir Henry Cary, the son of a Hertfordshire knight. She was then about fifteen years old. Either just before or, more probably, soon after her marriage she wrote a play of which the scene is laid at Syracuse, and dedicated it to her husband. That was her first literary venture. Her second, *Mariam*, she dedicated to her namesake, the wife of her husband's brother, Philip. There is some reason to suppose that Philip was knighted in 1605, which would

make the play the work of the first four years of the author's married life: it might safely be dated 1603-4. The date of Philip's marriage is unfortunately not known. The only difficulty is that the sonnet is to all appearances addressed to an unmarried woman. There is, however, nothing to prevent our supposing that Philip's bride, like Henry's, was still a child, and that it was some years before husband and wife lived together. Philip's eldest child was baptized in 1610, Henry's not before 1607. The authority for the dates given above will be found in the notes at the end of this introduction.

The play of *Mariam* must have circulated in manuscript among Lady Cary's friends, and for such manuscript copies, it is clear, the dedication was written, for by 1612 Philip's wife had ceased to be Mistress and had become Lady Cary. When in 1613 the play came to be printed the dedication as it stood was no longer correct. Had it been written in that year it must have been written very differently. Had it in that year been printed with a view to insertion in a few presentation copies, even then we might expect the heading at least to have been brought up to date. The play can hardly have been printed without the author's knowledge and at least acquiescence, for in view of the regular entry in the Stationers' Register and the licence by the Master of the Revels it is impossible to suppose that there was anything surreptitious about the publication. Perhaps the most probable conjecture is that after the play had been printed and part of the edition disposed of with the assent of the author, the dedication happened to come independently into the stationer's hands and that he printed and added it to the remainder of the stock without seeking further authority, and without troubling himself as to whether at that date it was, as it stood, correct. The fact that he utilized the back of the leaf for the addition of a list of dramatis personae suggests that he intended it as an integral portion of those copies in which it was inserted.

LIST OF DOUBTFUL READINGS, &c.

N.B.—The following is primarily a list of those passages in which the reading of the original is open to question, and of those in which different copies of the original have been found to vary. It also includes a number of readings which are evident typographical blunders of the original, this being necessary as a defence of the accuracy of the reprint. It makes, however, no pretence of supplying a complete list of errors and corruptions, still less of offering any criticism or emendation. For the sake of greater clearness the readings are quoted in a slightly different manner from that adopted in the earlier Malone reprints. The mere repetition of a reading out of the text is equivalent to 'sic'. The three British Museum copies mentioned above are distinguished as A, B, and C respectively. It will be observed that the inner forme of sheet G is uncorrected in A, and the outer forme of sheet H in B and C, as also in the copy at Eton.

Arg. 4 daughrer (<i>properly</i> grand-daughter)	353 Solleus.
6 reputia- ted	366 not (<i>read on</i> ?)
12 first (<i>properly</i> second)	373 home (<i>read whom</i> ?)
13 second (<i>properly</i> first)	387 Scena
23 <i>Iosophus</i>	413 forfeited (<i>add to or by</i> ?)
47 procured] <i>possibly</i> proeured	439 beastes, fwine, (<i>read beastes swim,</i> ?)
Text 12 (<i>line too short</i>)	478 vowd. (<i>read vow.</i>)
37 lowlyeft (<i>read louelyeft</i> ?)	512-3 (<i>should be indented and fol-</i> <i>lowed by lead</i>)
49 maide (<i>read minde</i>)	516 Of (<i>read If</i> ?)
69 c.w. Th	521 chreefull,
86 murthers (<i>read murthrers</i>)	525 T'hother
95 fam'd. (<i>read fam'd.</i>)	546 drawes nye] <i>possibly</i> drawesnye
127 <i>Mariam</i> (<i>read Herod</i>)	569 teach (<i>read teach vs</i> ?)
136 Nun (<i>read Mar</i>)	608 best (<i>read left</i> ?)
Alas	627 An d
138 If (<i>read In or Of</i> ?)	632 Scena.
160 findes (<i>read finde</i>)	634 Babus.
187 leeke. (<i>read feeke.</i>)	673 operpaff
203 And part (<i>read Apart</i> ?)	683 safely (<i>read safety</i> ?)
225 discontent, (<i>read discontents,</i>)	698 breath] <i>possibly</i> bre ath
226 did (<i>read doth</i> ?)	701 leare: (<i>read feare</i>)
261 suspitious (<i>read suspitions</i>)	710 gratitude <i>Conf.</i> belieue (<i>read gratitude. Conf. Belieue</i>)
264 <i>Iosephus</i> (<i>read Ioseph</i> ?)	711 (<i>line too short</i>)
286 allyes (<i>read all eyes</i>)	728 lue, (<i>read lie,</i>)
308 for	733 Iulsons
310 <i>Contabarus</i>	737 Phismony
311 Earneft	768 Your (<i>read You</i> ?)
335 Scena	
351 do'es	

792 oath (*read oaths* ?)
 823 fortunes. (*read fortunes*, ?)
 848 expectation? (*read exception* ?)
 849 Salom, (*read Salome*, ?) . :
 877 loft, (*read loffe*, ?)
 931 I, I, they fight, (*presumably the corruption of a stage direction*)
 933 Intru'd
 934 late tofeare, (*read late, I feare*, ?)
 936 Silles very (*read Silles. Very*)
 945 Sterne
 948 fo (*read too* ?)
 997 cane mak
 1017 beautie,
 1047 (*line too short*)
 1061 her with you be
 (*read here with you. Be* ?)
 1068 done (*read doom'd* ?)
 1070 he (*read we* ?)
 1071 his (*read our* ?)
 1112 bides] *possibly bides.*
 1126 (*belongs to Mariam*)
 1142 Great] *possibly Gear*
 1155 hypcorite
 1156 death] *possibly d eath*
 1196 Alexanders (*read Alexandras*)
 1262 Mariam? (*read Mariam, how* ? ?)
 1262, 1263 Nutio.
 1273 Iofualike
 1281 griepe (*read geefe* ?)
 1290 little, while (*read little while*,)
 1297 Whofe
 1332 you (*read your*)
 1339 Salom (*read Salome* ?)
 1343 them] *possibly the m*
 1393 (*the rime-line is missing*)
 1407 taught] *possibly tau ght*
 1428 paffion (*read poifon* ?)
 1451 would (*read I would* ?)
 1457 they
 1466 shoul'dft
 1468 neuer (*omit* ?)
 1478 heauy (*read heaunly* ?)
 1484 coul'dft
 1492 guliltles

1493 looke (*read locke*)
 1504 her: Sould you
 (*read her? Sould You* ?)
 1506 Wie
 1510 boue (*read loue*)
 1525 Bu.] *original Bu.*
 1526 caules (*read caufeles*)
 1542 founds
 1543 didft not (*read didest* ?)
 1560 Tis (*read Thus* ?)
 1566 your nuptiall
 (*read our nuptiall* ?)
 1589 heaue'n
 1593 many (*read man*)
 1601 You (*read Your*)
 1604 he (*read she*)
 1654 Sal. doubt
 1658 c.w. Youl'e] *so B, C, Bodl., Dyce, Eton. Youlle A*
 1694 (*line too short*)
 1781 anew.] *so B, C, Bodl., Dyce, Eton. a new, A*
 1802 At (*read As*)
 1844 power.) *Enter*
 1849 I (*read In* ?)
 1855 fees (*read fays* ?)
 1887 Gerarim (*read Gerizim*)
 1905 fcorning] *turned n in original*
 1938 Is (*read In* ?)
 1980 darke (*read darken* ?)
 1981 Our sacred] *possibly Ourfaced*
 1997 Nun. Go on, she
 (*read Go on. Nun. She* ?)
 1999 cheefull
 2002 (*line too short*)
 2011 made her Lord,
 (*read mad, her Lord*)
 2022 diuided, (*read diuide*,)
 2050 she (*read he*)
 2090 faire,
 2109 much a: (*read much. a*)
 2124 li'ud.
 2132 did (*read died* ?)
 2153, 2155 faine] *so A. Bodl., Dyce: fame B, C, Eton*
 2177 voyd] *possibly voy d*

LIST OF CHARACTERS

in order of appearance.

The extra leaf, found in the Huth copy, is said to contain a list of *dramatis personae*, but this is not now available.

MARIAM, wife to Herod.	ANTIPATER, her son.
ALEXANDRA, her mother.	ANANELL, the high priest.
SALOME, sister to Herod.	a Man of Sillesus'.
SILLEUS, an Arabian.	SOHEMUS, guardian of Mariam in
CONSTABARUS, husband to Salome.	Herod's absence.
PHERORAS, brother to Herod.	HEROD, king of Judaea.
GRAPHINA, his love.	Nuntio.
two Sons of Babus.	a Butler.
DORIS, formerly wife to Herod, now	a Soldier of Herod's.
repudiated.	Chorus.

Attendants on Herod, guard.

The character described as 'Nuntio' in V. i, presumably also appears in IV. i, where the word is twice misprinted 'Nutio' (ll. 1262, 1263). The 'Butler' brings the drink in IV. iv: the name is conjectural since the text has nothing but the prefix 'Bu.' or 'Bu' (ll. 1423, 1431, 1433, 1495, 1497, 1525). For the 'Soldier' see l. 1504. Herod's sister is called Salome or Salom according to the requirements of the metre.

No place is assigned for the scene; it is presumably in or before Herod's palace. The action is limited to one day.

With one exception the names of all the characters are taken from Josephus. He, however, does not name the slave-woman loved by Pheroras, who is here called Graphina. This name may, however, have been suggested by that of Glaphyra, the wife of a certain Alexander, mentioned in the same chapter as the incident of Pheroras' refusal of Herod's daughter. In Lodge's translation we actually find the marginal note: 'Herod greatly moved against Pheioras for affirming that he was in love with Glaphyra', where 'he' properly refers to Herod though it might easily be taken to refer to Pheroras.

NOTE ON THE SOURCE, DATE, AND AUTHORSHIP
OF THE PLAY.

Josephus gives two versions of the story of Mariam, one in the *Wars of the Jews*, the other in the *Antiquities*. Lady Cary uses the latter version. She follows Josephus fairly closely, but makes several alterations, sometimes compressing, sometimes amplifying, frequently transposing events, occasionally inventing scenes, to simplify the story and to observe the unities.

Many dramas have been based on this story, and most of these have been discussed by Landau: *Die Dramen von Herodes und Mariamne* (Zeitschrift für vergleichende Literaturgeschichte, ed. Koch, N.F. Bd. viii, ix. Weimar 1895-6). Before Lady Cary's drama appeared Dolce, Hans Sachs, and possibly Hardy had written their plays. Lady Cary does not seem to have used either the Italian, the German, or the French drama, but to have gone directly to Josephus for the subject-matter. It is true that Hardy's drama is to some extent similar to Lady Cary's work, whilst the dramas of Dolce and Hans Sachs contain much that is foreign to her play. Hardy's Pherore and Lady Cary's Pheroras do not appear in Dolce and Hans Sachs; in the argument of both dramas Hircanus is the father of Mariam: this mistake, however, is made once by Josephus, Lady Cary gives the correct relation throughout the drama, whilst Hardy does not do this. More striking is the similarity of Lady Cary l 1983 ff. and Hardy v. 81 ff.: 'Que dis-je merité, mille morts plus cruelles', &c. But the similarities are not close enough to prove borrowing.

Before the appearance of Lady Cary's drama Latin, French, German, and English translations of Josephus had

been published, and it is not quite clear whether Lady Cary used a Greek text or one of the translations. The following consideration points to the assumption that Lady Cary did not use a Greek text. In l. 1717 the name Asuerus occurs. In the Greek texts the name is Artaxerxes, but in some Latin texts there is a marginal gloss giving the name Assuerus, Asuerus. Thus the Latin text of 1514 (BM. 4515. f. 10) reads 'Cirus qui dictus est Artaxerxes in biblia est Assuerus', the Latin text of 1580 glosses 'Asuerus Rex Persarum'. A comparison of name-forms leads to no result. Lady Cary has Constabarus, Ananell, Babus sonnes, sonnes of Baba, Latin texts have Costobarus, Ananelus, Baba (gen. Babæ); Lodge has Costabarus Ananell (p. 386), Babas sonnes, &c. There are, however, good reasons for assuming that Lady Cary used Lodge's translation of Josephus (publ. 1602). Lodge translates *pincernam* 'butler', Lady Cary has a character Bu[tler]. Still more striking is the fact that Lady Cary combines the *pincerna* and *eunuchus* of the Latin texts (1580, p. 448), whilst in Lodge (p. 398) we read 'Mariammes most faithful servant' for 'eunuchum Mariammes fidissimum'. A slightly inattentive reader of Lodge might easily assume that the butler and the eunuch were one and the same person, as actually in the drama. There are, further, some verbal agreements: cp. Lady Cary, l. 1799 f.:

Am I the Mariam that presum'd so much &c.

and Lodge (p. 399): 'For being entertained by him, who intirely loued her . . . she presumed vpon a great and intemperate libertie in her discourse'; Lady Cary's Argument 'and presently after by the instigation of Salome, she was beheaded', Lodge (p. 398) 'Mariamme by Salomes instigations is led to execution' (but the Latin gloss (p. 449) reads 'Mariamme Salomæ instinctu ad supplicium ducitur'); Lady Cary's Argument 'vnder colour of sport', Lodge (p. 386) 'pretending to duck him in sport'. Lodge's translation contains a preface 'To the courteous Reader'. Three passages resemble passages in Lady Cary: 'whereas they that

sit in a plentiful banquet, in affecting all things, can make use of nothing', cp. Lady Cary, l. 180 ff.:

- But now he fared like a hungry guest,
That to some plenteous festiual is gone,
• Now this, now that, hee deems to eate were best,
Such choice doth make him let them all alone.

Lodge: 'And truly in my opinion the chiefest ground of this difficulty [the reading of history aright], is the peruersness of our iudgements, which is the cause we the rather respect our own inclinations what they are, then the true life and force of example', cp. Lady Cary's Chorus to Act II. Lodge [By reading history we] 'sit and learne preuention by other mens perils, and grow amplie wise by forraine wreckes', cp. Lady Cary, ll. 2232-7.

If Lodge's translation was used the drama was probably written after 1602, although Lodge's work was licensed as early as 26 June, 1598 (Arber, iii. 119). The limits seem to be 1602 (Lodge's translation) and 23 March, 1604/5 (Philip Cary created knight).

There is some internal evidence for attributing the drama to Sir Henry Cary's (Viscount Falkland's) wife. After Lady Falkland's death a biography of her was written by one or more of her daughters and revised by one of her sons (*The Lady Falkland: her life, &c.*, ed. R. S. 1861). The editor discusses the authorship of this biography in the introduction to his edition.

We know from this book that Lady Falkland was a great reader, that she herself wrote, and that she loved plays very much. There are some passages in the *Life* which are reflected in the drama. We read on p. 16 'she did always much disapprove the practice of satisfying oneself with their conscience being free from fault, not forbearing all that might have the least show or suspicion of uncomeliness or unfitness', and that she had 'Be and Seem' inscribed in her daughter's wedding ring. This maxim we find in the Chorus to Act III. Her letter to the king (p. 150) shows the

attitude which Lady Falkland thought it right for a woman to adopt towards her husband. This is reflected in this chorus, and in ll. 1833-40, whilst the villain of the piece (Salome) holds quite opposite views. In the play we read (ll. 1795-6):

My head waies downwards · therefore will I goe
To try if I can sleepe away my woe.

On p. 17 of the *Life* we learn that Lady Falkland was frequently depressed, that she could sleep at will, and was in the habit of sleeping to cure depression. Less striking is a correspondence between p. 22 of the *Life*, where we are told that Lady Falkland would confess to 'finding much more delight in obliging than in being obliged', and ll. 657-8 of the play. Moreover, in the one work which is almost certainly by her, a translation of the *Reply of the Cardinal of Perron*, &c, 1630, she hid the identity of authorship. In this play the fact that copies are found without the leaf containing the sonnet possibly points to the supposition that Lady Cary wished to remain unknown to the general public.

Evidently Lady Falkland had written something to attract attention. In the translation of the *Reply* there are verses 'To the most noble Translatour', where we read:

And though you know this where to weack a frame
To rayse up higher the greatnesse of your name
Which must from your owne rich inventions grow.

The publisher of Marston's *Works* 1633 dedicates them 'To the Right Honourable, the Lady Elizabeth Carey, Viscountess Falkland'. He does so 'because your Honour is well acquainted with the Muses'.

The dedication in John Davies's *Muses Sacrifice or Diuine Meditations* (London: printed by T.S for George Norton, 1612) proves conclusively that Lady Falkland is the author of the play. This work is dedicated 'To the most noble, and no lesse deseruedly-renowned Ladyes, as well Darlings, as Patronesses, of the Muses; Lucy, Countesse of Bedford; Mary, Countesse-Dowager of Pembroke; and Elizabeth,

Burials.

1623. Oct. 4. The Ladye Elizabeth, y^e wife of the right wor^{ll} Sir Philippe Carye, knight.
1631. June 16. The right wor^{ll} Sir Philippe Cary.
1633. Sep. 25. The right hon^{ble} Henry, Lord Cary, Viscount Falkland.

Great Berkhamstead, Herts.

Marriages.

1586. Nov. 20. Jhon Savell, Esq^r and M^{rs} Elizth Carye.

Registry of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Doctors' Commons, London:

(*Dorset* 33.) Sir Adolphe Carye, kt. Dat. March 16, 1604-5.

'... to my brother Sir Harry Cary, kt. ... to my brother Philip Carye ...' [the latter proved on 14 Apr. 1609 as Philip Cary, Knight.]

(*Fenner* 28.) Sir Wymond Carye, of Snettisham, co. Norfolk, kt. Dated Dec. 27, 1609.

'... to my nephew Sir Henry Cary, kt., son and heir app. of my brother Sir Edward Cary, kt. ... to my nephew Sir Philip Cary, kt., the youngest son of my said brother ...'

Henry Cary's eldest children were born at Burford (Oxfordshire). The registers here do not begin before 1612. According to Nichols (iii. 40) the eldest daughter, Catherine, was aged thirteen, and the eldest son, Lucius, was twelve, in 1622.

From the quotations from the wills it will be seen that Henry Cary was knighted before 16 March, 1604/5, but that his brother Philip was not. W. C. Metcalfe's *A Book of Knights*, London, 1885, contains the entries:

Sr. Philip Cary, Herts. 23 March 1604[/5].

Sr. Henry Cary, 3 Nov. 1616 [this is K.B.].

Sr. Henry Cary, 12 July 1599 [at Dublin].

The Henry Cary who become a K.B. in 1616 is the later Viscount Falkland. The wills prove that he was already a knight at the time. It is not clear (and, as far as the drama is concerned, it is immaterial) when he was first knighted. He may possibly be the Henry Cary knighted at Dublin in 1599. The 'Sr. Philip Cary of Herts.', who was knighted [at Greenwich—see also W. A. Shaw, *The Knights of England*, London, 1906, ii. 137] in March 1604/5

is certainly his brother Philip. Philip is a rare name in the Cary family, whilst Henry is common.

. The biography of Lady Falkland states:

‘She was born in the year of our Lord 1585 or 1586, in Oxfordshire, at the priory of Burford, her father’s house.’ (p. 1.)

‘At fifteen years old her father married her to one Sir Harry Carey (son to Sir Edward Carey, of Barkhamsted in Herts), then master of the Jewel-house to Queen Elizabeth.’ (p. 7.)

‘She was married seven years without any child.’ (p. 11.)

‘She . . . died . . . the — day of October, the year of our Lord 1639, being three or four-and-fifty years old.’ (p. 122.)

The name of Philip Cary’s wife is given in the *Visitations of Hertfordshire 1572 and 1634* (Harleian MSS. 6147 and 1546), 1886, p. 136: ‘Sir Philip Carey of Aldenham, co. Hertf. m. Elizabeth, da. of Richard Bland of co. York.’

THE
TRAGEDIE
OF MARIAM,
THE FAIRE
Queene of Iewry.

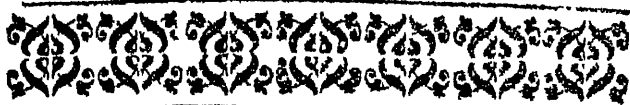
Written by that learned,
vertuous, and truly noble Ladie,
E. C.



LONDON.

Printed by Thomas Creede, for Richard
Hawkins, and are to be sold at his shoppe
in Chancery Lane, neere vnto
Sargeants Inne.

1613.



Actus primus. Scœna prima.

Mariam sola.

How oft haue I with publike voyce runne on :
To censure *Romes* last *Hero* for deceit :
Because he wept when *Pompey* life was gone,
Yet when he liu'd, hee thought his Name too great,
But now I doe recant, and *Roman* Lord
Excuse too rash a judgement in a woman :
My Sexe pleads pardon, pardon then afford,
Mistaking is with vs, but too too common.
Now doe I finde by selfe Experience taught,
One Object yeelds both grieffe and ioy :
You wept indeed, when on his worth you thought,
But ioyd that slaughter did your Foe destroy.
So at his death your Eyes true droppe did raine,
Whom dead, you did not wish aliue againe.
When *Herod* liu'd, that now is done to death,
Oft haue I wisht that I from him were free :
Oft haue I wisht that he might lose his breath,
Oft haue I wisht his Carcas dead to see.
Then Rage and Scorne had put my loue to flight,
That Loue which once on him was firmly set :
Hate hid his true affection from my sight,
And kept my heart from paying him his debt.
And blame me not, for *Herods* Iealousie
Had power euen constancie it selfe to change :
For hee by barring me from libertie,
To shunne my ranging, taught me first to range.
But yet too cōst a Scholler was my hart,
To learne to loue another then my Lord :
To leaue his loue, my lessons former part,

A 3

THE
TRAGEDIE
OF MARIAM,
THE FAIRE
Queene of Iewry.

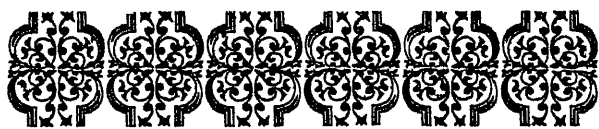
Written by that learned,
vertuous, and truly noble Ladie,
E. C.



L O N D O N.

Printed by Thomas Creede, for Richard
Hawkins, and are to be folde at his shoppe
in Chancery Lane, neere vnto
Sargeants Inne.

1 6 1 3.



The Argument.

H*erod* the sonne of *Antipater* (an *Idumean*,) hauing crept by the fauor of the *Romanes*, into the Iewish Monarchie, married *Mariam* the daughter of *Hircanus*, the rightfull *King and Priest*, and for her (besides her high blood, being of singular beautie) hee reputed *Doris*, his former Wife, by whome hee had Children

This *Mariam* had a Brother called *Aristobolus*, and next him and *Hircanus* his Graund-father, *Herod* in his 10 Wiues right had the best title Therefore to remooue them, he charged the first with treason: and put him to death; and drowned the second vnder colour of sport. *Alexandra*, Daughter to the one, and Mother to the other, accused him for their deaths before *Anthony*.

So when hee was forc'te to goe answere this Accusation at *Rome*, he left the custodie of his wife to *Iosephus* his Vncle, that had married his Sister *Salome*, and out of a violent affection (vnwilling any should enioy her after him) hee gaue strict and priuate commaundement, 20 that if hee were slaine, shee should be put to death. But he returned with much honour, yet found his Wife extremely discontented, to whom *Iosephus* had (meaning it for the best, to proue *Herod* loued her) reuealed his charge.

So by *Salomes* accusation hee put *Iosephus* to death, but was reconciled to *Mariam*, who still bare the death of her Friends exceeding hardly.

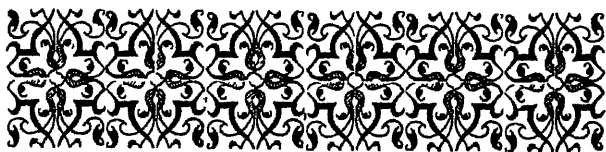
In this meane time *Herod* was againe necessarily to reuise *Rome*, for *Cesar* hauing ouerthrowne *Anthony* his 30

THE EPISTLE

great friend, was likely to make an alteration of his Fortune.

In his absence, newes came to *Ierusalem* that *Cæsar* had put him to death, their willingnes it should be so, together with the likelyhood, gaue this Rumor so good credit, as *Sobemus* that had succeeded *Iosephus* charge, succeeded him likewise in reuealing it. So at *Herods* returne which was speedy and vnexpected, he found *Mariam* so farre from ioye, that she shewed apparant signes of sorrow. Hee still desiring to winne her to a better humour, 40 she being very vnable to conceale her passion, fell to vpbraiding him with her Brothers death. As they were thus debating, came in a fellow with a Cuppe of Wine, who hired by *Salome*, faide first, it was a Loue potion, which *Mariam* desired to deliuer to the King: but afterwards he affirmed that it was a poyson, and that *Sobemus* had tolde her somewhat, which procured the vehement hate in her

The King hearing this, more moued with Iealoufie of *Sobemus*, then with this intent of poyson, sent her away, and presently after by the instigation of *Salome*, she was beheaded. Which rashnes was afterward punished in him, with an intollerable and almost Frantike passion for her death.





Actus primus. Scœna prima.

Mariam sola.

HOW oft haue I with publike voyce runne on ?
To censure *Romes* last *Hero* for deceit :

Because he wept when *Pompeys* life was gone,
Yet when he liu'd, hee thought his Name too great.
But now I doe recant, and *Roman* Lord

Excuse too rash a judgement in a woman :

My Sexe pleads pardon, pardon then afford,

Mistaking is with vs, but too too common.

10

Now doe I finde by selfe Experience taught,

One Object yeelds both griefe and ioy :

You wept indeed, when on his worth you thought,

But ioyd that slaughter did your Foe destroy.

So at his death your Eyes true droppes did raine,

Whom dead, you did not wish aliue againe

When *Herod* liu'd, that now is done to death,

Oft haue I wisht that I from him were free :

Oft haue I wisht that he might lose his breath,

Oft haue I wisht his Carkas dead to see.

20

Then Rage and Scorne had put my loue to flight,

That Loue which once on him was firmly set :

Hate hid his true affection from my sight,

And kept my heart from paying him his debt.

And blame me not, for *Herods* Iealousie

Had power euen constancie it selfe to change :

For hee by barring me from libertie,

To shunne my ranging, taught me first to range.

But yet too chaste a Scholler was my hart,

To learne to loue another then my Lord :

30

To leaue his Loue, my lessons former part,

THE TRAGEDIE

I quickly learn'd, the other I abhord.
 But now his death to memorie doth call,
 The tender loue, that he to *Mariam* bare:
 And mine to him, this makes those riuers fall,
 Which by an other thought vnmoistned are.
 For *Aristobolus* the lowlyest youth
 That euer did in Angels shape appeare:
 The cruell *Herod* was not mou'd to ruth,
 Then why grieues *Mariam* *Herods* death to heare? 40
 Why ioy I not the tongue no more shall speake,
 That yeelded forth my brothers latestt dome:
 Both youth and beautie might thy furie breake,
 And both in him did ill besit a Tombe
 And worthy Grandfire ill did he requite,
 His high Assent alone by thee procur'd,
 Except he mured thee to free the spright
 Which still he thought on earth too long immur'd.
 How happie was it that *Sobornus* maide
 Was mou'd to pittie my distrest estate? 50
 Might *Herods* life a trustie seruant finde,
 My death to his had bene vnseparate. (beare,
 These thoughts haue power, his death to make me
 Nay more, to wish the newes may firmly hold:
 Yet cannot this repulse some falling teare,
 That will against my will some grieve vnfold
 And more I owe him for his loue to me,
 The deepest loue that euer yet was seene:
 Yet had I rather much a milke-maide bee,
 Then be the Monarke of *Iudeas* Queene. 60
 It was for nought but loue, he wisht his end
 Might to my death, but the vaunt-currier proue:
 But I had rather still be foe then friend,
 To him that faues for hate, and kills for loue.
 Hard-hearted *Mariam*, at thy discontent,
 What floods of teares haue drencht his manly face?
 How canst thou then so faintly now lament,
 Thy truest louers death, a deaths disgrace:
 I now mine eyes you do begin to right

Th

OF MARIAM.

The wrongs of your admirer. And my Lord, 70
 Long since you should haue put your smiles to flight,
 Ill doth a widowed eye with ioy accord.
 Why now me thinkes the loue I bare him then,
 When virgin freedome left me vnrestrained :
 Doth to my heart begin to creepe agen,
 My passion now is far from being faind
 But teares flie backe, and hide you in your bankes,
 You must not be to *Alexandra* seene:
 For if my mone be spide, but little thankes
 Shall *Mariam* haue, from that incensed Queene. 80

Actus primus : Scœna Secunda.

Mariam. Alexandra.

Alex.

(mistake,

W^Hat meanes these teares? my *Mariam* doth
 The newes we heard did tell the *Tyrants* end :
 What weepst thou for thy brothers murthers sake,
 Will euer wight a teare for *Herod* spend ?
 My curse pursue his breathles trunke and spirit,
 Base *Edomite* the damned *Esaus* heire :
 Must he ere *Iacobs* child the crowne inherit ? 90
 Must he vile wretch be set in *Dauids* chaire ?
 No *Dauids* soule within the bosome plac'te,
 Of our forefather *Abram* was asham'd :
 To see his feat with such a toade disgrac'te,
 That feat that hath by *Judas* race bene fain'd.
 Thou fatall enemie to royall blood,
 Did not the murder of my boy suffice,
 To stop thy cruell mouth that gaping stood ?
 But must thou dim the milde *Hercanus* eyes ?
 My gracious father, whose too readie hand 100
 Did lift this *Idumean* from the dust :
 And he vngratefull catiffe did withstand,
 The man that did in him most friendly trust.
 What kingdomes right could cruell *Herod* claime,
 Was he not *Esaus* issue, heyre of hell ?
 Then what succeffion can he haue but shame ?
 Did not his Ancestor his birth-right sell ? 0

THE TRAGEDIE

O yes, he doth from *Edoms* name deriue,
 His cruell nature which with blood is fed:
 That made him me of Sire and sonne depriue,
 He euer thirsts for blood, and blood is red.
 Weepst thou because his loue to thee was bent?
 And readst thou loue in crimfon characters?
 Slew he thy friends to worke thy hearts content?
 No: hate may iustly call that action hers.
 He gaue the sacred Priesthood for thy sake,
 To *Aristobolus* Yet doomde him dead:
 Before his backe the *Ephod* warme could make,
 And ere the *Myter* settled on his head:
 Oh had he giuen my boy no lesse then right,
 The double oyle should to his forehead bring:
 A double honour, shining doubly bright,
 His birth annoynted him both Priest and King.
 And say my father, and my sonne he slewe,
 To royalize by right your Prince borne breath:
 Was loue the cause, can *Mariam* deeme it true,
 That *Mariam* gaue commandment for her death?
 I know by fits, he shewd some signes of loue,
 And yet not loue, but raging lunacie:
 And this his hate to thee may iustly proue,
 That sure he hates *Hercanus* familie.
 Who knowes if he vnconstant wauering Lord,
 His loue to *Doris* had renew'd againe?
 And that he might his bed to her afford,
 Perchance he wisht that *Mariam* might be flaine.
Nun. *Doris*, Alas her time of loue was past,
 Those coales were rakte in embers long agoe:
 If *Mariams* loue and she was now disgraft,
 Nor did I glorie in her ouerthrowe.
 He not a whit his first borne sonne esteem'd,
 Because as well as his he was not mine:
 My children onely for his owne he deem'd,
 These boyes that did descend from royall line.
 These did he stile his heyres to *Dauids* throne,
 My *Alexander* if he liue, shall fit

110

120

130

140

In

OF MARIAM.

In the Maiesticke feat of *Salamon*,
 To will it so, did *Herod* thinke it fit
Alex Why? who can claime from *Alexanders* brood
 That Gold adorned Lyon-guarded Chaire?
 Was *Alexander* not of *Dauids* blood? 150
 And was not *Mariam Alexanders* heire?
 What more then right could *Herod* then bestow,
 And who will thinke except for more then right,
 He did not raise them, for they were not low,
 But borne to weare the Crowne in his despight:
 Then send those teares away that are not sent
 To thee by reason, but by passions power:
 Thine eyes to cheere, thy cheekes to smiles be bent,
 And entertaine with ioy this happy houre.
 Felicitie, if when shee comes, she findes 160
 A mourning habite, and a cheerlesse looke,
 Will thinke she is not welcome to thy minde,
 And so perchance her lodging will not brooke.
 Oh keepe her whilest thou hast her, if she goe
 She will not easily returne againe:
 Full many a yeere haue I indur'd in woe,
 Yet still haue sude her presence to obtaine:
 And did not I to her as presents send
 A Table, that best Art did beautifie
 Of two, to whom Heauen did best feature lend, 170
 To woe her loue by winning *Anthony*:
 For when a Princes fauour we doe craue,
 We first their Mynions loues do seeke to winne:
 So I, that sought Felicitie to haue,
 Did with her Mynion *Anthony* beginne,
 With double flight I fought to captiuate
 The warlike louer, but I did not right:
 For if my gift had borne but halfe the rate,
 The *Roman* had beene ouer-taken quite.
 But now he fared like a hungry guest, 180
 That to some plenteous festiuall is gone,
 Now this, now that, hee deems to eate were best,
 Such choice doth make him let them all alone.

THE TRAGEDIE

The boyes large forehead first did fayrest seeme,
 Then glaunſt his eye vpon my *Mariams* cheek: :
 And that without comparifon did deeme,
 VVhat was in eyther but he moſt did leeke.
 And thus diſtracted, eythers beauties might
 VVithin the others excellence was drown'd :
 Too much delight did bare him from delight, 190
 For eithers loue, the others did confound.
 VVhere if thy portraiture had onely gone,
 His life from *Herod*, *Anthony* had taken :
 He would haue loued thee, and thee alone,
 And left the browne *Egyptian* cleane forſaken.
 And *Cleopatra* then to ſeeke had bene,
 So firme a louer of her wayned face :
 Then great *Anthonius* fall we had not ſeene,
 By her that fled to haue him holde the chaſe.
 Then *Mariam* in a *Romans* Chariot ſet, 200
 In place of *Cleopatra* might haue ſhowne :
 A mart of Beauties in her viſage met,
 And part in this, that they were all her owne.
Ma. Not to be Emprife of aſpiring *Rome*,
 Would *Mariam* like to *Cleopatra* liue :
 With pureſt body will I preſſe my Toome,
 And wiſh no fauours *Anthony* could giue.
Alex. Let vs retire vs, that we may reſolue
 How now to deale in this reuerſed ſtate :
 Great are th'affaires that we muſt now reuolue, 210
 And great affaires muſt not be taken late.

Actus primus. Scoena tertia.

Mariam. Alexandra. Salome.

Salome.

MORE plotting yet? Why? now you haue the thing
 For which ſo oft you ſpent your ſuppliant breath :
 And *Mariam* hopes to haue another King,
 Her eyes doe ſparkle ioy for *Herods* death.

Alex.

OF MARIAM.

Alex If she desir'd another King to haue,
 She might before she came in *Herods* bed 220
 Haue had her wish. More Kings then one did craue,
 For leaue to set a Crowne vpon her head.
 I thinke with more then reason she laments,
 That she is freed from such a sad annoy :
 Who ist will weepe to part from discontent,
 And if she ioy, she did not causelesse ioy.

Sal You durst not thus haue giuen your tongue the
 If noble *Herod* still remaind in life : (raine,
 Your daughters betters farre I dare maintaine,
 Might haue reioyc'd to be my brothers wife. 230

Mar. My betters farre, base woman t'is vntrue,
 You scarce haue euer my superiors seene :
 For *Mariams* seruants were as good as you,
 Before she came to be *Iudeas* Queene.

Sal Now stirs the tongue that is so quickly mou'd,
 But more then once your collar haue I borne :
 Your fumish words are sooner sayd then prou'd,
 And *Salomes* reply is onely scorne

Mar. Scorne those that are for thy companions
 Though I thy brothers face had neuer seene, (held, 240
 My birth, thy baser birth so farre exceld,
 I had to both of you the Princeesse bene.
 Thou party Iew, and party Edomite,
 Thou Mongrell : issu'd from reiected race,
 Thy Ancestors against the Heauens did fight,
 And thou like them wilt heauenly birth disgrace.

Sal. Still twit you me with nothing but my birth,
 What ods betwixt your ancestors and mine ?
 Both borne of *Adam*, both were made of Earth,
 And both did come from holy *Abrahams* line. 250

Mar. I fauour thee when nothing else I say,
 VVith thy blacke acts ile not pollute my breath :
 Else to thy charge I might full iustly lay
 A shamefull life, besides a husbands death.

Sal. Tis true indeed, I did the plots reueale,
 That past betwixt your fauorites and you :
 I ment not I, a traytor to conceale.

THE TRAGEDIE

Thus *Salome* your Mynion *Ioseph* flue.

Mar Heauen, dost thou meane this Infamy to smo-
Let slandered *Mariam* ope thy closed eare: (ther? 260

Selfe-guilt hath euer bene suspitious mother,
And therefore I this speech with patience beare

No, had not *Salomes* vnstedfast heart,

In *Iosephus* stead her *Constabarus* plapt,

To free her selfe, she had not vsde the art,

To slander haplesse *Mariam* for vnchast

Alex Come *Mariam*, let vs goe: it is no boote

To let the head contend against the foote.

Actus primus. Scoena quarta.

Salome, Sola.

270

L Iues *Salome*, to get so base a stile
As foote, to the proud *Mariam Herods* spirit:

In happy time for her endured exile,
For did he liue she should not misse her merit:

But he is dead: and though he were my Brother,

His death such store of Cinders cannot cast

My Coales of loue to quench: for though they smo-

The flames a while, yet will they out at last. (ther

Oh blest *Arabia*, in best climate plapt,

I by the Fruit will censure of the Tree:

280

'Tis not in vaine, thy happy name thou hast,

If all *Arabians* like *Silleus* bee:

Had not my Fate bene too too contrary,

When I on *Constabarus* first did gaze,

Silleus had beene obiect to mine eye:

Whose lookes and personage must allyes amaze.

But now ill Fated *Salome*, thy tongue

To *Constabarus* by it selfe is tide:

And now except I doe the Ebrew wrong

I cannot be the faire *Arabian* Bride:

290

What childish lets are these? Why stand I now

On honourable points? 'Tis long agoe

Since

OF MARIAM.

Since shame was written on my tainted brow :
 And certaine tis, that shame is honours foe.
 Had I vpon my reputation stood,
 Had I affected an vnspotted life,
Iosephus vaines had still bene stuf with blood,
 And I to him had liu'd a sober wife.
 Then had I neuer cast an eye of loue,
 On *Constabarus* now detested face, 300
 Then had I kept my thoughts without remoue :
 And blusht at motion of the least disgrace :
 But shame is gone, and honour wipt away,
 And Impudencie on my forehead fits :
 She bids me worke my will without delay,
 And for my will I will imploy my wits.
 He loues, I loue ; what then can be the cause,
 Keepes me for being the *Arabians* wife ?
 It is the principles of *Moses* lawes,
 For *Contabarus* still remaines in life, 310
 If he to me did beare as Earnest hate,
 As I to him, for him there were an ease,
 A separating bill might free his fate :
 From such a yoke that did so much displease
 Why should such priuiledge to man be giuen ?
 Or giuen to them, why bard from women then ?
 Are men then we in greater grace with Heauen ?
 Or cannot women hate as well as men ?
 Ile be the custome-breaker : and beginne
 To shew my Sexe the way to freedomes doore, 320
 And with an offering will I purge my sinne,
 The lawe was made for none but who are poore.
 If *Herod* had liu'd, I might to him accuse
 My present Lord. But for the futures sake
 Then would I tell the King he did refuse
 The sonnes of *Baba* in his power to take
 But now I must diuorfe him from my bed,
 That my *Silleus* may possesse his roome :
 Had I not begd his life he had bene dead,
 I curse my tongue the hindrer of his doome, 330

THE TRAGEDIE

But then my wandring heart to him was fast,
Nor did I dreame of chaunge: *Silleus* said,
He would be here, and see he comes at last,
Had I not nam'd him longer had he staid.

Actus primus. *Sœna quinta.*

Salome, Silleus.

Silleus. **W**ELL found faire *Salome Iudeas* pride,
Hath thy innated wisedome found
To make *Silleus* deeme him deified, (the way
By gaining thee a more then precious pray? 340

Sal. I haue deuifde the best I can deuife,
A more imperfect meanes was neuer found:
But what cares *Salome*, it doth suffice
If our indeuours with their end be crown'd
In this our land we haue an ancient vse,
Permitted first by our law-giuers head:
Who hates his wife, though for no iust abuse,
May with a bill diuorce her from his bed.
But in this custome women are not free,
Yet I for once will wrest it, blame not thou 350
The ill I doe, since what I do'es for thee,
Though others blame, *Silleus* should allow.

Silleus. Thinkes *Salome*, *Silleus* hath a tongue
To censure her faire actions: let my blood
Bedash my proper brow, for such a wrong,
The being yours, can make euen vices good:
Arabia ioy, prepare thy earth with greene,
Thou neuer happie wert indeed till now:
Now shall thy ground be trod by beauties Queene,
Her foote is destin'd to depresse thy brow. 360
Thou shalt faire *Salome* commaund as much
As if the royall ornament were thine:
The weaknes of *Arabias* King is such,
The kingdome is not his so much as mine.
My mouth is our *Obodas* oracle,
Who thinkes not ought but what *Silleus* will?

And

OF MARIAM.

And thou rare creature. *Asias* miracle,
Shalt be to me as It *Obodas* still.

Salome 'Tis not for glory I thy loue accept,
Iudea yeelds me honours worthy store :
Had not affection in my bosome crept,
My natiue country should my life deplore.
Were not *Silleus* he with home I goe,
I would not change my *Palastine* for *Rome* :
Much lesse would I a glorious state to shew,
Goe far to purchase an *Arabian* toome.

370

Silleus. Far be it from *Silleus* so to thinke,
I know it is thy gratitude requites
The loue that is in me, and shall not shrink
Till death doe seuer me from earths delights. (talke, 380

Salom. But whist; me thinkes the wolfe is in our
Be gone *Silleus*, who doth here arriue ?
'Tis *Constabarus* that doth hither walke,
He find a quarrell, him from me to driue.

Sille. Farewell, but were it not for thy commaund,
In his despite *Silleus* here would stand.

Actus primus: Scena Sexta.

Salome: Constabarus.

Conf: OH *Salome*, how much you wrög your name,
Your race, your country, and your husband 390
A straungers priuate conference is shame, (most ?
I blush for you, that haue your blushing lost.
Oft haue I found, and found you to my grieve,
Conforted with this base *Arabian* heere :
Heauen knowes that you haue bin my comfort chiefe,
Then doe not now my greater plague appeare.
Now by the stately Carued edifice
That on Mount *Sion* makes so faire a show,
And by the Altar fit for sacrifice,
I loue thee more then thou thy selfe doest know. 400
Oft with a silent sorrow haue I heard
How ill *Iudeas* mouth doth censure thee:

And

THE TRAGEDIE

And did I not thine honour much regard,
 Thou shouldst not be exhorted thus for mee.
 Didst thou but know the worth of honest fame,
 How much a vertuous woman is esteem'd,
 Thou wouldest like hell eschew deserued shame,
 And seeke to be both chaste and chastly deem'd.
 Our wisest Prince did say, and true he said,
 A vertuous woman crownes her husbands head. 410

Salome. Did I for this, vpreare thy lowe estate?
 Did I for this requitall begge thy life,
 That thou hadst forfeited haples fate?
 To be to such a thankles wretch the wife.
 This hand of mine hath lifted vp thy head,
 Which many a day agoe had false full lowe,
 Because the sonnes of *Baba* are not dead,
 To me thou doest both life and fortune owe.

Const. You haue my patience often exercised,
 Vse make my choller keepe within the bankes: 420
 Yet boast no more, but be by me aduised.
 A benefit vpbraided, forfeits thanks:
 I prethy *Salome* dismisse this mood,
 Thou doest not know how ill it fits thy place:
 My words were all intended for thy good,
 To raise thine honour and to stop disgrace.

Sa. To stop disgrace? take thou no care for mee,
 Nay do thy worst, thy worst I set not by:
 No shame of mine is like to light on thee,
 Thy loue and admonitions I desie. 430
 Thou shalt no hower longer call me wife,
 Thy Iealousie procures my hate so deepe:
 That I from thee doe meane to free my life,
 By a diuorcing bill before I sleepe.

Const. Are Hebrew women now transform'd to men?
 Why do you not as well our battels fight,
 And weare our armour? suffer this, and then
 Let all the world be topsie turued quite.
 Let fishes graze, beastes, swine, and birds descend,
 Let fire burne downewards whilst the earth aspires: 440

Let

OF MARIAM.

Let Winters heat and Summers cold offend,
 Let Thistels growe on Vines, and Grapes on Briers,
 Set vs to Spinne or Sowe, or at the best
 Make vs Wood-hewers, Waters-bearing wights:
 For sacred seruice let vs take no rest,
 Vse vs as *Ioshua* did the *Gibonites*

Salom. Hold on your talke, till it be time to end,
 For me I am resolu'd it shall be so:
 Though I be first that to this course do bend,
 I shall not be the last full well I know. 450

Const. Why then be witnesse Heau'n, the Iudge of
 Be witnesse Spirits that eschew the darke: (finnes,
 Be witnesse Angels, witnesse Cherubins,
 Whose semblance fits vpon the holy Arke:
 Be witnesse earth, be witnesse *Palestine*,
 Be witnesse *Dauids* Citie, if my heart
 Did euer merit such an act of thine:
 Or if the fault be mine that makes vs part,
 Since mildest *Moses* friend vnto the Lord,
 Did worke his wonders in the land of *Harn*, 460
 And slew the first-borne Babes without a sword,
 In signe whereof we eate the holy Lambe:
 Till now that foureteene hundred yeeres are past,
 Since first the Law with vs hath beene in force:
 You are the first, and will I hope, be last,
 That euer fought her husband to diuorce.

Salom. I meane not to be led by president,
 My will shall be to me in stead of Law.

Const. I feare me much you will too late repent,
 That you haue euer liu'd so void of awe: 470
 This is *Silleus* loue that makes you thus
 Reuerse all order: you must next be his.
 But if my thoughts aright the cause discusse,
 In winning you, he gaines no lasting blisse,
 I was *Silleus*, and not long agoe

Iosephus then was *Constabarus* now:
 When you became my friend you prou'd his foe,
 As now for him you breake to me your vowd.

THE TRAGEDIE

Sal. If once I lou'd you, greater is your debt :
 For certaine tis that you deserued it not. 480
 And vnderferued loue we soone forget,
 And therefore that to me can be no blot.
 But now fare ill my once beloued Lord,
 Yet neuer more belou'd then now abhord.

Const. Yet *Constabarus* biddeth thee farewell.
 Farewell light creature. Heauen forgieue thy sinne :
 My prophesying spirit doth foretell
 Thy wauering thoughts doe yet but new beginne.
 Yet I haue better scap'd then *Ioseph* did,
 But if our *Herods* death had bene delayd, 490
 The valiant youths that I so long haue hid,
 Had bene by her, and I for them betrayd.
 Therefore in happy houre did *Cæsar* giue
 The fatall blow to wanton *Anthony* :
 For had he liued, our *Herod* then should liue,
 But great *Antonius* death made *Herod* dye.
 Had he enioyed his breath, not I alone
 Had beene in danger of a deadly fall :
 But *Mariam* had the way of perill gone,
 Though by the Tyrant most belou'd of all. 500
 The sweet fac'd *Mariam* as free from guilt
 As Heauen from spots, yet had her Lord come backe
 Her purest blood had bene vniustly spilt.
 And *Salome* it was would worke her wracke.
 Though all *Iudea* yeeld her innocent,
 She often hath bene neere to punishment.

Chorus.

THose mindes that wholly dote vpon delight,
 Except they onely ioy in inward good :
 Still hope at last to hop vpon the right, 510
 And so from Sand they leape in loathsome mud.
 Fond wretches, seeking what they cannot finde,
 For no content attends a wauering minde.
 If wealth they doe desire, and wealth attaine,

Then

OF MARIAM.

Then wondrous faine would they to honor lepe:
 Of meane degree they doe in honor gaine,
 They would but with a little higher step.
 Thus step to step, and wealth to wealth they ad,
 Yet cannot all their plenty make them glad.

Yet oft we see that some in humble state, 520
 Are chreefull, pleafant, happy, and content:
 When those indeed that are of higher state,
 With vaine additions do their thoughts torment.
 Th'one would to his minde his fortune binde,
 T'hothor to his fortune frames his minde.

To with varietie is signe of griefe,
 For if you like your state as now it is,
 Why fhould an alteration bring reliefe?
 Nay change would then be fear'd as losse of blis.
 That man is onely happy in his Fate, 530
 That is delighted in a fetled state

Still *Mariam* wifht ſhe from her Lord were free,
 For expectation of varietie:
 Yet now ſhe fees her wiſhes prosperous bee,
 She grieues, becauſe her Lord ſo ſoone did die.
 Who can thoſe vaſt imaginations feede,
 Where in a propertie, contempt doth breede?

Were *Herod* now perchance to liue againe,
 She would againe as much be griued at that:
 All that ſhe may, ſhe euer doth diſdaine, 540
 Her wiſhes guide her to ſhe knowes not what.
 And ſad muſt be their lookes, their honor ſower,
 That care for nothing being in their power.

Actus fecundus. Scœna prima.

Pheroras and Graphina.

Pher. **T**Is true *Graphina*, now the time drawes nye
 Wherin the holy Prielt with hallowed right,
The

THE TRAGEDIE

The happy long desired knot shall tie,
Pheroras and *Graphina* to vnite: 550
 How oft haue I with lifted hands implor'd
 This blessed houre, till now implord in vaine,
 Which hath my wished libertie restor'd,
 And made my subiect selfe my owne againe.
 Thy loue faire Mayd vpon mine eye doth fit,
 Whose nature hot doth dry the moysture all,
 Which were in nature, and in reason fit
 For my monachall Brothers death to fall:
 Had *Herod* liu'd, he would haue pluckt my hand
 From faire *Graphinas* Palme perforce: and tide
 The same in hatefull and despised band, 560
 For I had had a Baby to my Bride:
 Scarce can her Infant tongue with easie voice
 Her name distinguishing to anothers eare:
 Yet had he liu'd, his power, and not my choise
 Had made me solembly the contract sweare
 Haue I not cause in such a change to ioy?
 What? though she be my Neece, a Princeesse borne:
 Neere bloods without respect: high birth a toy.
 Since Loue can teach blood and kindreds scorne.
 What bootedit that he did raise my head, 570
 To be his Realmes Copartner, Kingdomes mate,
 Withall, he kept *Graphina* from my bed,
 More wisht by me then thrice *Iudeas* state.
 Oh, could not he be skilfull Iudge in loue,
 That doted so vpon his *Mariams* face?
 He, for his passion, *Doris* did remoue.
 I needed not a lawfull Wife displace,
 It could not be but he had power to iudge,
 But he that neuer grudg'd a Kingdomes share,
 This well knowne happinesse to me did grudge: 580
 And ment to be therein without compare.
 Else had I bene his equall in loues hoast,
 For though the Diadem on *Mariams* head
 Corrupt the vulgar iudgements, I will boast
Graphinas brow's as white, her cheekes as red.

Why

OF MARIAM.

Why speake thou not faire creature? moue thy tongue,
For Silence is a signe of discontent :

It were to both our loues too great a wrong
If now this hower do find thee sadly bent.

Graph. Mistake me not my Lord, too oft haue I 590

Desir'd this time to come with winged feete,
To be inwrapt with grieve when tis too nie,
You know my wishes euer yours did meete:
If I be silent, tis no more but feare

That I should say too little when I speake:
But since you will my imperfections beare,
In spight of doubt I will my silence breake :

Yet might amazement tie my mouing tongue,
But that I know before *Pheroras* minde,

I haue admired your affection long: 600

And cannot yet therein a reason finde.

Your hand hath lifted me from lowest state,

To highest eminencie wondrous grace,

And me your hand-maid haue you made your mate,

Though all but you alone doe count me base.

You haue preferued me pure at my request,

Though you so weake a vassaile might constraîne

To yeeld to your high will, then last not best

In my respect a Princeesse you disdaine,

Then need not all these fauours studie craue, 610

To be requited by a simple maide:

And studie still you know must silence haue,

Then be my cause for silence iustly waide,

But studie cannot boote nor I requite,

Except your lowly hand-maides steadfast loue

And fast obedience may your mind delight,

I will not promise more then I can proue.

Phero. That studie needs not let *Graphina* smile,

And I desire no greater recompence:

I cannot vaunt me in a glorious stile, 620

Nor shew my loue in far-fetcht eloquence:

But this beleue me, neuer *Herods* heart

Hath held his Prince-borne beautie famed wife

THE TRAGEDIE

In neerer place then thou faire virgin art,
 To him that holds the glory of his life.
 Should *Herods* body leaue the Sepulcher,
 And entertaine the feuer'd ghost againe:
 He should not be my nuptiall hinderer,
 Except he hindred it with dying paine.
 Come faire *Graphina*, let vs goe in state,
 This wish-indeered time to celebrate.

630

Actus 2. Scœna. 2.

Constabarus and Babus Sonnes.

Babus 1. Sonne.

NOW valiant friend you haue our liues redeem'd,
 Which liues as sau'd by you, to you are due:
 Command and you shall see your selfe esteem'd,
 Our liues and liberties belong to you.
 This twice fixe yeares with hazard of your life,
 You haue conceal'd vs from the tyrants sword:
 Though cruell *Herods* sister were your wife,
 You durst in scorn of feare this grace afford.
 In recompence we know not what to say,
 A poore reward were thanks for such a merit,
 Our truest friendship at your feete we lay,
 The best requitall to a noble spirit. (youth,

640

Const. Oh how you wrong our friendship valiant
 With friends there is not such a word as det:
 Where amitie is tide with bond of truth,
 All benefits are there in common set.
 Then is the golden age with them renew'd,
 All names of properties are banisht quite:
 Diuision, and distinction, are eschew'd:
 Each hath to what belongs to others right.
 And tis not sure so full a benefit,
 Freely to giue, as freely to require:
 A bountious act hath glory following it,
 They cause the glory that the act desire

650

All

OF MARIAM.

All friendship should the patterne imitate,
 Of *Iesses* Sonne and valiant *Ionathan* : 660
 For neither Soueraignes nor fathers hate,
 A friendship fixt on vertue feuer can.
 Too much of this, tis written in the heart,
 And need no amplifying with the tongue :
 Now may you from your liuing tombe depart,
 Where *Herods* life hath kept you ouer long.
 Too great an iniury to a noble minde,
 To be quicke buried, you had purchast fame,
 Some yeares a goe, but that you were confinde.
 While thousand meaner did aduance their name. 670
 Your best of life the prime of all your yeares,
 Your time of action is from you bereft.
 Twelue winters haue you operpast in feares :
 Yet if you vse it well, enough is left.
 And who can doubt but you will vse it well ?
 The sonnes of *Babus* haue it by descent :
 In all their thoughts each action to excell,
 Boldly to act, and wisely to inuent.

Babus 2. Sonne.

Had it not like the hatefull cuckoe beene, 680
 Whose riper age his infant nurse doth kill :
 So long we had not kept our selues vnseene,
 But *Constabarus* safely crost our will :
 For had the Tyrant fixt his cruell eye,
 On our concealed faces wrath had swaide
 His Iustice so, that he had forst vs die.
 And dearer price then life we should haue paid,
 For you our truest friend had falne with vs :
 And we much like a house on pillars set,
 Had cleane deprest our prop, and therefore thus 690
 Our readie will with our concealement met.
 But now that you faire Lord are daungerlesse,
 The Sonnes of *Baba* shall their rigor shew :
 And proue it was not basenes did oppresse
 Our hearts so long, but honour kept them low.

Ba. 1. Sonne. Yet do I feare this tale of *Herods* death,
 At last will proue a very tale indeed :

It

THE TRAGEDIE

It giues me strongly in my minde, his breath
 Will be preferu'd to make a number bleed:
 I wish not therefore to be set at large,
 Yet perill to my selfe I do not leare:
 Let vs for some daies longer be your charge,
 Till we of *Herods* state the truth do heare.

700

Const. What art thou turn'd a coward noble youth,
 That thou beginst to doubt, vndoubted truth?

Babus. 1. Son. Were it my brothers tongue that cast
 I frō his hart would haue the question out: (this doubt,
 With this keene fauchion, but tis you my Lord
 Against whose head I must not lift a sword:

I am so tide in gratitude *Const* belieue

710

You haue no cause to take it ill,

If any word of mine your heart did grieue
 The word discented from the speakers will,

I know it was not feare the doubt begun,

But rather valour and your care of me,

A coward could not be your fathers sonne,

Yet know I doubts vnneccessarie be:

For who can thinke that in *Anthoni* fall,

Herod his bosome friend should scape vnbrusde:

Then *Cæsar* we might thee an idiot call,

720

If thou by him should'ft be so farre abuse.

Babus. 2. Sonne. Lord *Constab*: let me tell you this,

Vpon submiſſion *Cæsar* will forgiue:

And therefore though the tyrant did amisse,

It may fall out that he will let him liue.

Not many yeares agoe it is since I

Directed thither by my fathers care,

In famous *Rome* for twice twelue monthes did liue,

My life from *Hebrewes* crueltie to spare,

There though I were but yet of boyish age,

730

I bent mine eye to marke, mine eares to heare

Where I did see *Octauious* then a page,

When first he did to *Iulions* fight appeare:

Me thought I saw such mildnes in his face,

And such a sweetnes in his lookes did grow,

Withall

OF MARIAM.

Withall, commixt with ſo maiſticke grace,
His Phifmony his Fortune did foreſhow:
For this I am indebted to mine eye,
But then mine eare receiu'd more euidence,
By that I knew his loue to clemency, 740
How he with hotteſt choller could diſpence.

Conſt. But we haue more then barely heard the news,
It hath bin twice confirm'd. And though ſome tongue
Might be ſo falſe, with falſe report t'abuſe,
A falſe report hath neuer laſted long.
But be it ſo that *Herod* haue his life,
Concealement would not then a whit auaille:
For certaine t'is, that ſhe that was my wife,
Would not to ſet her accusation faile.
And therefore now as good the venture giue, 750
And free our ſelues from blot of cowardiſe:
As ſhow a pittifull deſire to liue,
For, who can pittie but they muſt deſpiſe?

Babus firſt ſonne.

I yeeld, but to neceſſitie I yeeld,
I dare vpon this doubt ingage mine arme:
That *Herod* ſhall againe this kingdome weeld,
And proue his death to be a falſe alarme.

Babus ſecond ſonne.

I doubt it too: God grant it be an error, 760
Tis beſt without a cauſe to be in terror:
And rather had I, though my foule be mine,
My foule ſhould lie, then proue a true diuine.

Conſt. Come, come, let feare goe ſeeke a daſtards
Vndanted courage lies in a noble breaſt. (neſt,

Actus 2. Scoena 3.

Doris and Antipater.

Dor. **Y**Our royall buildings bow your loſtie ſide,
And ſcope to her that is by right your Queen:
D Let

THE TRAGEDIE

Let your humilitie vpbraid the pride 770
 Of those in whom no due respect is seene:
 Nine times haue we with Trumpets haughtie found,
 And banishing fow'r Leauen from our taste:
 Obseru'd the feast that takes the fruit from ground.
 Since I faire Citie did behold thee last,
 So long it is since *Mariams* purer cheeke
 Did rob from mine the glory. And so long
 Since I returnd my natie Towne to seeke:
 And with me nothing but the fence of wrong.
 And thee my Boy, whose birth though great it were, 780
 Yet haue thy after fortunes prou'd but poore:
 When thou wert borne how little did I feare
 Thou shouldst be thrust from forth thy Fathers doore.
 Art thou not *Herods* right begotten Sonne?
 VVas not the haples *Doris*, *Herods* wife?
 Yes: ere he had the Hebrew kingdome wonne,
 I was companion to his priuate life.
 VVas I not faire enough to be a Queene?
 Why ere thou wert to me false Monarch tide,
 My lake of beauty might as well be seene, 790
 As after I had liu'd fise yeeres thy Bride.
 Yet then thine oath came powring like the raine,
 Which all affirm'd my face without compare:
 And that if thou might'st *Doris* loue obtaine,
 For all the world besides thou didst not care.
 Then was I yong, and rich, and nobly borne,
 And therefore worthy to be *Herods* mate:
 Yet thou vngratefull cast me off with scorne,
 When Heauens purpose raisd your meaner fate.
 Oft haue I begd for vengeance for this fact, 800
 And with delected knees, aspiring hands
 Haue prayd the highest power to inact
 The fall of her that on my Trophee stands.
 Reuenge I haue according to my will,
 Yet where I wisht this vengeance did not light:
 I wisht it should high-hearted *Mariam* kill.
 But it against my whilome Lord did fight

With

OF MARIAM.

With thee sweet Boy I came, and came to try
 If thou before his bastards might be plac'd
 In *Herods* royall seat and dignitie. 810
 But *Mariams* infants here are onely grac'd,
 And now for vs there doth no hope remaine :
 Yet we will not returne till *Herods* end
 Be more confirmd, perchance he is not flaine.
 So glorious Fortunes may my Boy attend,
 For if he liue, hee'll thinke it doth suffice,
 That he to *Doris* shows such crueltie :
 For as he did my wretched life dispiſe,
 So doe I know I shall despiſed die.
 Let him but proue as naturall to thee, 820
 As cruell to thy miserable mother :
 His crueltie shall not vpbraided bee
 But in thy fortunes. I his faults will smother.
Antipat. Each mouth within the Citie loudly cries
 That *Herods* death is certaine: therefore wee
 Had best some subtile hidden plot deuise,
 That *Mariams* children might subuerted bee,
 By poisons drinke, or else by murtherous Knife,
 So we may be aduanc'd, it skills not how :
 They are but Bastards, you were *Herods* wife, 830
 And foule adultery blotteth *Mariams* brow.
Doris. They are too strong to be by vs remou'd,
 Or else reuenges foulest spotted face :
 By our detested wrongs might be approu'd,
 But weakenesse must to greater power giue place.
 But let vs now retire to grieue alone,
 For solitarines best fitteth mone.

Actus secundus. Scœna 4.

Silleus and Constabarus.

Silleus. WELL met *Judean* Lord, the onely wight 840
Silleus wisht to see. I am to call
 D 2 Thy

THE TRAGEDIE

Thy tongue to strict account. *Const.* For what despight
I ready am to heare, and answere all.

But if directly at the cause I gesse
That breeds this challenge, you must pardon me:
And now some other ground of fight professe,
For I haue vow'd, vowes must vnbroken be

Sill. What may be your expectation? let me know

Const. Why? ought concerning *Salom*, my sword
Shall not be welded for a cause so low, 850
A blow for her my arme will scorne t'afford.

Sill. It is for flandering her vnspotted name,
And I will make thee in thy vowes despight,
Sucke vp the breath that did my Mistris blame,
And swallow it againe to doe her right.

Const. I prethee giue some other quarrell ground
To finde beginning, raile against my name:
Or strike me first, or let some scarlet wound
Inflame my courage, giue me words of shame,
Doe thou our *Moses* sacred Lawes disgrace, 860
Deprauē our nation, doe me some despight:
I'm apt enough to fight in any case,
But yet for *Salome* I will not fight.

Sill. Nor I for ought but *Salome*: My sword
That owes his seruice to her sacred name:
Will not an edge for other cause afford,
In other fight I am not sure of fame.

Const. For her, I pittie thee enough already,
For her, I therefore will not mangle thee:
A woman with a heart so most vnsteady, 870
Will of her selfe sufficient torture bee.

I cannot enuy for so light a gaine,
Her minde with such vnconstancie doth runne:
As with a word thou didst her loue obtaine,
So with a word she will from thee be wonne.
So light as her possessions for most day
Is her affections lost, to me tis knowne:
As good goe hold the winde as make her stay,
Shee neuer loues, but till she call her owne.

She

She meerly is a painted sepulcher, 880
 That is both faire, and vilely foule at once :
 Though on her out-side graces garnish her,
 Her mind is filld with worfe then rotten bones.
 And euer readie lifted is her hand,
 To aime destruction at a husbands throat :
 For proofes, *Iosephus* and my selfe do stand,
 Though once on both of vs, she seem'd to doat.
 Her mouth though serpent-like it neuer hisses,
 Yet like a Serpent, poysons where it kisses. (bite.
Silleus. Well *Hebrew* well, thou bark'ft, but wilt not 890
Conf. I tell thee still for her I will not fight (heart
Sille. Why then I call thee coward. *Conf.* From my
 I giue thee thankses. A cowards hatefull name,
 Cannot to valiant mindes a blot impart,
 And therefore I with ioy receiue the same.
 Thou know'ft I am no coward : thou wert by
 At the *Arabian* battaile th'other day :
 And saw'ft my sword with daring valiancy,
 Amongst the faint *Arabians* cut my way.
 The blood of foes no more could let it shine, 900
 And twas inameled with some of thine.
 But now haue at thee, not for *Salome*
 I fight : but to discharge a cowards stile :
 Here gins the fight that shall not parted be,
 Before a foule or two indure exile. (my blood,
Silleus. Thy sword hath made some windowes for
 To shew a horred crimson phisnomie :
 To breath for both of vs me thinkes twere good,
 The day will giue vs time enough to die. (time,
Conf. With all my hart take breath, thou shalt haue 910
 And if thou list a twelue month, let vs end :
 Into thy cheekes there doth a palenes clime,
 Thou canst not from my sword thy selfe defend.
 What needest thou for *Salome* to fight, (her :
 Thou hast her, and may'ft keepe her, none striues for
 I willingly to thee resigne my right,
 For in my very foule I do abhorre her.

THE TRAGEDIE

Thou seest that I am fresh, vnwounded yet,
 Then not for feare I do this offer make:
 Thou art with losse of blood, to fight vnfit,
 For here is one, and there another take.

920

Silleus. I will not leaue, as long as breath remaines
 Within my wounded body: spare your words,
 My heart in bloods stead, courage entertaines,
Salomes loue no place for feare affords.

Const. Oh could thy foule but prophesie like mine,
 I would not wonder thou should'st long to die:
 For *Salome* if I aright diuine
 Will be then death a greater miserie.

(will,

Sille. Then list, Ile breath no longer. *Const.* Do thy
 I hateles fight, and charitably kill I, I, they fight,
 Pittie thy selfe *Silleus*, let not death
 Intrude before his time into thy hart:
 Alas it is too late to feare, his breath
 Is from his body now about to part.

How far'st thou braue *Arabian*? *Silleus* very well,
 My legge is hurt, I can no longer fight:
 It onely grieues me, that so soone I fell,
 Before faire *Saloms* wrongs I came to right.

(feare,

Const. Thy wounds are lesse then mortall. Neuer
 Thou shalt a safe and quicke recouerie finde:
 Come, I will thee vnto my lodging beare,
 I hate thy body, but I loue thy minde.

940

Silleus. Thankes noble Iew, I see a courtious foe,
 Sterne enmitie to friendship can no art:
 Had not my heart and tongue engagde me so,
 I would from thee no foe, but friend depart.
 My heart to *Salome* is tide so fast,
 To leaue her loue for friendship, yet my skill
 Shall be imploy'd to make your fauour last,
 And I will honour *Constabarus* still.

950

Const. I ope my bosome to thee, and will take
 Thee in, as friend, and grieue for thy complaint:
 But if we doe not expedition make,
 Thy losse of blood I feare will make thee faint.

Chorus.

OF MARIAM.

Chorus.

TO heare a tale with eares preiudicate,
It spoiles the iudgement, and corrupts the fence:
That humane error giuen to euery state,
Is greater enemie to innocence. 960
It makes vs foolish, heddy, rash, vniust,
It makes vs neuer try before we trust.

It will confound the meaning, change the words,
For it our fence of hearing much deceiues:
Besides no time to Iudgement it affords,
To way the circumstance our eare receiues.
The ground of accidents it neuer tries,
But makes vs take for truth ten thousand lies.

Our eares and hearts are apt to hold for good,
That we our felues doe most desire to bee: 970
And then we drowne obiections in the flood
Of partialitie, tis that we see
That makes false rumours long with credit past,
Though they like rumours must conclude at last.

The greatest part of vs preiudicate,
With wishing *Herods* death do hold it true:
The being once deluded doth not bate,
The credit to a better likelihood due.
Those few that wish it not the multitude,
Doe carrie headlong, so they doubts conclude. 980

They not object the weake vncertaine ground,
Whereon they built this tale of *Herods* end:
Whereof the Author scarcely can be found,
And all because their wishes that way bend.
They thinke not of the perill that ensu'th,
If this should proue the contrary to truth.

THE TRAGEDIE

On this same doubt, on this so light a breath,
 They pawne their liues, and fortunes. For they all
 Behaue them as the newes of *Herods* death,
 They did of most vndoubted credit call:
 But if their actions now doe rightly hit,
 Let them commend their fortune, not their wit.

990

Actus tertius: Scoena prima.

Pheroras: Salome.

Phero. **V**Rge me no more *Graphina* to forsake,
 Not twelue howers since I married her
 And doe you thinke a sisters power cane mak (for loue:
 A resolute decree, so soone remoue? (affects.
Salome. Poore minds they are that honour not
Phero: Who hunts for honour, happines neglects. 1000
Salom. You might haue bene both of felicitie,
 And honour too in equall measure seasde.
Phero. It is not you can tell so well as I,
 What tis can make me happie, or displeasde.
Salome. To match for neither beautie nor respects
 One meane of birth, but yet of meaner minde,
 A woman full of naturall defects,
 I wonder what your eye in her could finde. (wit,
Phero: Mine eye found louelines, mine eare found
 To please the one, and to enchant the other: 1010
 Grace on her eye, mirth on her tongue doth sit,
 In lookes a child, in wisedomes house a mother. (else,
Salom: But say you thought her faire, as none thinks
 Knowes not *Pheroras*, beautie is a blast:
 Much like this flower which to day excels,
 But longer then a day it will not last. (show
Phero: Her wit exceeds her beautie, *Salo:* Wit may
 The way to ill, as well as good you know.
Phero: But wisedome is the porter of her head,
 And bares all wicked words from issuing thence. 1020
Salome.

OF MARIAM.

Sal. But of a porter, better were you sped,
If she against their entrance made defence.

Phero. But wherefore comes the sacred *Ananell*,
That hitherward his hastie steppes doth bend?
Great sacrificer y'are arriued well,
Ill newes from holy mouth I not attend.

Actus tertius.

Scoena 2.

Pheroras Salome. Ananell.

Ananell.

MY lippes, my sonne, with peacefull tidings blest, 1030
Shall vtter Honey to your listning eare:
A word of death comes not from Priestly brest,
I speake of life: in life there is no feare.
And for the newes I did the Heauens salute,
And fill'd the Temple with my thankfull voice:
For though that mourning may not me pollute,
At pleasing accidents I may reioyce.

Pheror. Is *Herod* then reuiu'd from certaine death?

Sall What? can your news restore my brothers breath?

Ana. Both so, and so, the King is safe and sound, 1040
And did such grace in royall *Cæsar* meet:
That he with larger stile then euer crownd,
Within this houre Ierusalem will greet.
I did but come to tell you, and must backe
To make preparatiues for sacrifice:
I knew his death, your hearts like mine did racke,
Though to conceale it, prou'd you wife

Salom. How can my ioy sufficiently appeare?

Phero. A heauier tale did neuer pierce mine eare.

Salo. Now *Salome* of happinesse may boast. 1050

Pheror. But now *Pheroras* is in danger most.

Salom. I shall enioy the comfort of my life.

Pheror. And I shall loose it, loosing of my wife.

E

Salome.

THE TRAGEDIE

Salom. Ioy heart, for *Constan.* shall be flaine.

Phero. Grieve soule, *Graphina* shall from me be tane.

Salom. Smile cheekes, the faire *Silleus* shall be mine.

Phero Weepe eyes, for I must with a child combine.

Salom. Well brother, cease your mones, on one con-
 ile vndertake to winne the Kings consent: (dition
Graphina still shall be in your tuition, 1060
 And her with you be nere the lesse content.

Phero. What's the condition? let me quickly know,
 That I as quickly your command may act:
 Were it to see what Hearbs in *Ophir* grow,
 Or that the lofty *Tyrus* might be sackt.

Salom. Tis no so hard a taske: It is no more,
 But tell the King that *Consta.* hid
 The sonnes of *Baba*, done to death before:
 And tis no more then *Consta.* did.
 And tell him more that he for *Herods* sake, 1070
 Not able to endure his brothers foe:
 Did with a bill our separation make,
 Though loth from *Consta.* else to goe.

Phero. Beleuee this tale for told, Ile goe from hence,
 In *Herods* eare the Hebrew to deface:
 And I that neuer studied eloquence,
 Doe meane with eloquence this tale to grace. *Exit.*

Salom. This will be *Constabarus* quicke dispatch,
 Which from my mouth would lesser credit finde:
 Yet shall he not decease without a match, 1080
 For *Mariam* shall not linger long behinde.
 First Iealousie, if that auaille not, feare
 Shalbe my minister to worke her end:
 A common error moues not *Herods* eare,
 Which doth so firmly to his *Mariam* bend.
 She shall be charged with so horrid crime,
 As *Herods* feare shall turne his loue to hate:
 Ile make some sweare that she desires to clime,
 And seekes to poyson him for his estate.
 I scorne that she should liue my birth t'vpbraid, 1090
 To call me base and hungry Edomite:

With

OF MARIAM.

With patient shew her choller I betrayd,
 And watcht the time to be reueng'd by flite.
 Now tongue of mine with scandall load her name,
 Turne hers to fountaines, *Herods* eyes to flame:
 Yet first I will begin *Pheroras* fuite,
 That he my earnest businesse may effect:
 And I of *Mariam* will keepe me mute,
 Till first some other doth her name detect.
 Who's there, *Silleus* man? How fares your Lord? 1100
 That your aspects doe beare the badge of sorrow?

Silleus man.

He hath the marks of *Constabarus* sword,
 And for a while desires your fight to borrow.
Salom. My heauy curse the hatefull sword pursue,
 My heauier curse on the more hatefull arme
 That wounded my *Silleus*. But renew
 Your tale againe. Hath he no mortall harme?

Silleus man.

No signe of danger doth in him appeare, 1110
 Nor are his wounds in place of perill seene:
 Hee bides you be assured you need not feare,
 He hopes to make you yet *Arabias* Queene.

Salom. Commend my heart to be *Silleus* charge,
 Tell him, my brothers suddaine comming now:
 Will giue my foote no roome to walke at large,
 But I will see him yet ere night I vow.

Actus 3. Scœna 3.

Mariam and Sobemus.

Mariam.

1120

S*obemus*, tell me what the newes may be
 That makes your eyes so full, your cheeks so blew?

Sobem. I know not how to call them. Ill for me
 Tis sure they are: not so I hope for you.

Herod. Mari. Oh, what of *Herod*? *Sobem.* *Herod* liues.
 How! liues? What in some Caue or Forrest hid?

THE TRAGEDIE

Sobem. Nay, backe return'd with honor. *Cæsar* giués
Him greater grace then ere *Anthony* did.

Mari. Foretell the ruine of my family,
Tell me that I shall see our Citie burnd: 1130
Tell me I shall a death disgracefull die,
But tell me not that *Herod* is returnd.

Sobem. Be not impatient Madam, be but milde,
His loue to you againe will soone be bred:

Mar. I will not to his loue be reconcilde,
With solemne vowes I haue forsworne his Bed.

Sobem. But you must breake those vowes.

Mar. Ile rather breake
The heart of *Mariam*. Cursed is my Fate:
But speake no more to me, in vaine ye speake 1140
To liue with him I so profoundly hate.

Sobem. Great Queene, you must to me your pardon
Sobemus cannot now your will obey: (giue,

If your command should me to silence driue,
It were not to obey, but to betray.
Reiect, and slight my speeches, mocke my faith,
Scorne my obseruance, call my counsell nought:
Though you regard not what *Sobemus* saith,
Yet will I euer freely speake my thought.

I feare ere long I shall faire *Mariam* see 1150
In wofull state, and by her selfe vndone:
Yet for your issues sake more temp'rate bee,
The heart by affabilitie is wonne.

Mari. And must I to my Prison turne againe?
Oh, now I see I was an hypocrite:
I did this morning for his death complaine,
And yet doe mourne, because he liues ere night.
When I his death beleeu'd, compassion wrought,
And was the stickler twixt my heart and him:
But now that Curtaine's drawne from off my thought, 1160
Hate doth appeare againe with visage grim:
And paints the face of *Herod* in my heart,
In horred colours with detested looke:
Then feare would come, but scorne doth play her part,
And

OF MARIAM.

And faith that scorne with feare can neuer brooke.
 I know I could inchaine him with a smile :
 And lead him captiue with a gentle word,
 I scorne my looke should euer man beguile,
 Or other speech, then meaning to afford.
 Else *Salome* in vaine might spend her winde, 1170
 In vaine might *Herods* mother whet her tongue :
 In vaine had they complotted and combinde,
 For I could ouerthrow them all ere long.
 Oh what a shelter is mine innocence,
 To shield me from the pangs of inward grieve :
 Gainst all mishaps it is my faire defence,
 And to my sorrowes yeelds a large reliefe.
 To be commandresse of the triple earth,
 And sit in safetie from a fall secure :
 To haue all nations celebrate my birth, 1180
 I would not that my spirit were impure.
 Let my distressed state vnpittied bee,
 Mine innocence is hope enough for mee. *Exit*
Sobem: Poore guiltles Queene. Oh that my wish
 A little temper now about thy heart: (might place
 Vnbridled speech is *Mariams* worst disgrace,
 And will indanger her without defart.
 I am in greater hazard. O're my head,
 The fattall axe doth hang vnstedily :
 My disobedience once discovered, 1190
 Will shake it downe: *Sobemus* so shall die.
 For when the King shall find, we thought his death
 Had bene as certaine as we see his life :
 And markes withall I slighted so his breath,
 As to preferue aliuie his matchles wife.
 Nay more, to giue to *Alexanders* hand
 The regall dignitie. The foueraigne power,
 How I had yeelded vp at her command,
 The strength of all the citie, *Dauids* Tower.
 What more then common death may I expect, 1200
 Since I too well do know his crueltie :
 Twere death, a word of *Herods* to neglect,

THE TRAGEDIE

What then to doe directly contrarie?
 Yet life I quite thee with a willing spirit,
 And thinke thou could'st not better be imploy'd:
 I forfeit thee for her that more doth merit,
 Ten such were better dead then she destroy'd.
 But fare thee well chaste Queene, well may I see
 The darknes palpable, and riuers part:
 The sunne stand still. Nay more retorted bee,
 But neuer woman with so pure a heart.
 Thine eyes graue maiestie keeps all in awe,
 And cuts the winges of euery loose desire:
 Thy brow is table to the modest lawe,
 Yet though we dare not loue, we may admire.
 And if I die, it shall my soule content,
 My breath in *Mariams* seruice shall be spent.

1210

Chorus.

TIs not enough for one that is a wife
 To keepe her spotles from an act of ill:
 But from suspition she should free her life,
 And bare her selfe of power as well as will.
 'Tis not so glorious for her to be free,
 As by her proper selfe restrain'd to bee.

1220

When she hath spacious ground to walke vpon,
 Why on the ridge should she desire to goe?
 It is no glory to forbear alone,
 Those things that may her honour ouerthrowe.
 But tis thanke-worthy, if she will not take
 All lawfull liberties for honours sake.

1230

That wife her hand against her fame doth reare,
 That more then to her Lord alone will giue
 A priuate word to any second eare,
 And though she may with reputation liue.
 Yet though most chaste, she doth her glory blot,
 And wounds her honour, though she kills it not.
When

OF MARIAM

When to their Husbands they themselues doe bind,
Doe they not wholly giue themselues away?
Or giue they but their body not their mind,
Referuing that though best, for others pray? 1240
No sure, their thoughts no more can be their owne,
And therefore should to none but one be knowne.

Then she vsurpes vpon anothers right,
That seekes to be by publike language grac't:
And though her thoughts reflect with purest light,
Her mind if not peculiar is not chaste.
For in a wife it is no worfe to finde,
A common body, then a common minde.

And euery mind though free from thought of ill,
That out of glory seekes a worth to shew: 1250
When any's eares but one therewith they fill,
Doth in a fort her purenes ouerthrow.
Now *Mariam* had, (but that to this she bent)
Beene free from feare, as well as innocent.

Actus quartus: Scœna prima.

Enter Herod and his attendants.

Herod.

HAile happie citie, happie in thy store,
And happy that thy buildings such we see:
More happie in the Temple where w'adore, 1260
But most of all that *Mariam* liues in thee.
Art thou return'd? how fares my *Mariam*? *Enter Nutio.*
Nutio. She's well my Lord, and will anon be here
As you commanded. *Her.* Muffle vp thy browe
Thou daies darke taper. *Mariam* will appeare.
And where she shines, we need not thy dimme light,
Oh hast thy steps rare creature, speed thy pace:
And let thy presence make the day more bright,
And cheere the heart of *Herod* with thy face.

It

THE TRAGEDIE

It is an age since I from *Mariam* went,
 Me thinkes our parting was in *Dauid's* daies :
 The houres are so increast by discontent,
 Deepe sorrow, *Iofualike* the season staies :
 But when I am with *Mariam*, time runnes on,
 Her sight, can make months, minutes, daies of weekes :
 An hower is then no sooner come then gon.
 When in her face mine eye for wonders seekes.
 You world commanding citie, *Europes* grace,
 Twice hath my curious eye your streets furua'd,
 And I haue seene the statue filled place, 1280
 That once if not for griefe had bene betra'd.
 I all your *Roman* beauties haue beheld,
 And seene the shewes your *Ediles* did prepare,
 I saw the fum of what in you exceld,
 Yet saw no miracle like *Mariam* rare.
 The faire and famous *Liui*a, *Cæsars* loue,
 The worlds commaunding Mistresse did I see :
 Whose beauties both the world and *Rome* approue,
 Yet *Mariam* : *Liui*a is not like to thee.
 Be patient but a little, while mine eyes 1290
 Within your compast limits be contain'd :
 That object straight shall your desires suffice,
 From which you were so long a while restrain'd.
 How wisely *Mariam* doth the time delay,
 Least suddaine ioy my fence should suffocate :
 I am prepar'd, thou needst no longer stay :
 Whose there, my *Mariam*, more then happie fate?
 Oh no, it is *Pheroras*, welcome Brother,
 Now for a while, I must my passion smother.

Actus quartus. Scœna secunda. 1300

Herod. Pheroras.

Pheroras.

All health and safetie waite vpon my Lord,
 And may you long in prosperous fortunes liue
With

OF MARIAM

With *Rome* commanding *Cæsar*; at accord,
And haue all honors that the world can giue.

Herod. Oh brother, now thou speakest not from thy
No, thou hast strooke a blow at *Herod's* loue: (hart,

That cannot quickly from my memory part,
Though *Salome* did me to pardon moue 1310

Valiant *Phasaelus*, now to thee farewell,
Thou wert my kinde and honorable brother:

Oh haples houre, when you selfe stricken fell,
Thou fathers Image, glory of thy mother.

Had I desir'd a greater sute of thee,
Then to withhold thee from a harlots bed,

Thou wouldst haue granted it. but now I see
All are not like that in a wombe are bred.

Thou wouldst not, hadst thou heard of *Herod's* death,
Haue made his buriall time, thy bridall houre: 1320

Thou wouldst with clamours, not with ioyfull breath,
Haue shew'd the newes to be not sweet but soure.

Phero. *Phasaelus* great worth I know did staine
Pheroras petty valour: but they lie

(Excepting you your selfe) that dare maintaine,
That he did honor *Herod* more then I.

For what I shewd, loues power constraind me shew,
And pardon louing faults for *Mariams* sake.

Herod. *Mariam*, where is she? *Phero.* Nay, I do not
But absent vse of her faire name I make: (know, 1330

You haue forgiuen greater faults then this,
For *Constabarus* that against you will

Preferu'd the sonnes of *Baba*, liues in blisse,
Though you commanded him the youths to kill.

Herod. Goe, take a present order for his death,
And let those traytors feele the worst of feares:

Now *Salome* will whine to begge his breath,
But Ile be deafe to prayers: and blind to teares.

Phero. He is my Lord from *Salom* diuorst,
Though her affection did to leaue him grieve: 1340

Yet was she by her loue to you inforst,
To leaue the man that would your foes relieue.

THE TRAGEDIE

Herod. Then haste them to their death. I will requite
Thee gentle *Mariam* *Salom* I meane
The thought of *Mariam* doth so steale my spirit,
My mouth from speech of her I cannot weane. *Exit.*

Actus 4. Scœna 3.

Herod. Mariam.

Herod.

ANd heere she comes indeed : happily met 1350
My best, and deereſt halfe : what ailes my deare ?
Thou doeſt the difference certainly forget
Twixt Duskey habits, and a time ſo cleare.

Mar. My Lord, I ſuit my garment to my minde,
And there no cheerfull colours can I finde.

Herod. Is this my welcome ? haue I longd ſo much
To ſee my deareſt *Mariam* diſcontent ?
What iſt that is the cauſe thy heart to touch ?
Oh ſpeake, that I thy ſorrow may preuent.
Art thou not *Iuries* Queene, and *Herods* too ? 1360
Be my Commandres, be my Soueraigne guide :
To be by thee directed I will woo,
For in thy pleaſure lies my higheſt pride.
Or if thou thinke *Iudeas* narrow bound,
Too ſtrict a limit for thy great command :
Thou ſhalt be Empreſſe of *Arabia* crownd,
For thou ſhalt rule, and I will winne the Land.
Ile robbe the holy *Dauids* Sepulcher
To giue thee wealth, if thou for wealth do care :
Thou ſhalt haue all, they did with him inter, 1370
And I for thee will make the Temple bare.

Mar. I neither haue of power nor riches want,
I haue enough, nor doe I wiſh for more :
Your offers to my heart no eaſe can grant,
Except they could my brothers life reſtore.
No, had you wiſht the wretched *Mariam* glad,

Or

OF MARIAM.

Or had your loue to her bene truly tide :
 Nay, had you not desir'd to make her sad,
 My brother nor my Grandfyre had not dide.

Her. Wilt thou beleue no oathes to cleere thy Lord? 1380

How oft haue I with execration fworne :

Thou art by me belou'd, by me ador'd,
 Yet are my protestations heard with scorne.

Hercanus plotted to depriue my head
 Of this long fetled honor that I weare :

And therefore I did iustly doome him dead,
 To rid the Realme from perill, me from feare.

Yet I for *Mariams* sake doe so repent
 The death of one : whose blood she did inherit :

I wish I had a Kingdomes treasure spent,

1390

So I had nere expeld *Hercanus* spirit.

As I affected that same noble youth,

In lasting infamie my name inrole :

If I not mournd his death with heartie truth.

Did I not shew to him my earnest loue,

When I to him the Priesthood did restore?

And did for him a liuing Priest remoue,

Which neuer had bene done but once before.

Mariam. I know that mou'd by importunitie,

You made him Priest, and shortly after die.

1400

Herod. I will not speake, vnles to be beleeu'd,

This froward humor will not doe you good :

It hath too much already *Herod* grieu'd,

To thinke that you on termes of hate haue stood.

Yet smile my dearest *Mariam*, doe but smile,

And I will all vnkind conceits exile.

Mari. I cannot frame disguise, nor neuer taught

My face a looke dissenting from my thought.

Herod. By heau'n you vexe me, build not on my loue.

Mari. I wil not build on so vnstable ground.

1410

Herod. Nought is so fixt, but peeuisshnes may moue.

Mar. Tis better sleightest cause then none were fould.

Herod. Be iudge your selfe, if euer *Herod* fought

Or would be mou'd a cause of change to finde :

THE TRAGEDIE

Yet let your looke declare a milder thought,
My heart againe you shall to *Mariam* binde.
How oft did I for you my Mother chide,
Reuile my Sister, and my brother rate:
And tell them all my *Mariam* they belide,
Distrust me still, if these be signes of hate.

1420

Actus 4. Scœna 4.

Herod

Vhat hast thou here? *Bu.* A drinke procuring
The Queene desir'd me to deliuer it. (loue,

Mar. Did I: some hatefull practise this will proue,
Yet can it be no worse then Heauens permit.

Herod Confesse the truth thou wicked instrument,
To her outrageous will, tis passion sure:
Tell true, and thou shalt scape the punishment,
Which if thou doe conceale thou shalt endure.

1430

Bu I know not, but I doubt it be no lesse,
Long since the hate of you her heart did cease.

Herod. Know'st thou the cause thereof? *Bu* My Lord
Sobemus told the tale that did displease. (I gesse,

Herod. Oh Heauen! *Sobemus* false! Goe let him die,
Stay not to suffer him to speake a word:
Oh damned villaine, did he falsifie

The oath he swore eu'n of his owne accord?
Now doe I know thy falshood, painted Diuill
Thou white Inchantres. Oh thou art so foule,

1440

That Ysop cannot cleanse thee worst of euill.
A beautious body hides a loathsome foule,
Your loue *Sobemus* mou'd by his affection,
Though he haue euer heretofore bene true:
Did blab forfooth, that I did giue direction,
If we were put to death to slaughter you.
And you in blacke reuenge attended now
To adde a murder to your breach of vow.

Mar. Is this a dream? *Her.* Oh Heauen, that t'were no
Ile giue my Realme to who can proue it so: (more, 1450

I

OF MARIAM.

I would I were like any begger poore,
 So I for false my *Mariam* did not know.
 Foule pith contain'd in the fairest rinde,
 That euer grac'd a Cædar. Oh thine eye
 Is pure as heauen, but impure thy minde,
 And for impuritie shall *Mariam* die.
 Why didst thou loue *Solomon*? *Mar.* they can tell
 That say I lou'd him, *Mariam* saies not so
Herod Oh cannot impudence the coales expell,
 That for thy loue in *Herods* bosome glowe: 1460
 It is as plaine as water, and deniall
 Makes of thy falsehood but a greater triall.
 Hast thou beheld thy selfe, and couldst thou staine
 So rare perfection: euen for loue of thee
 I doe profoundly hate thee. Wert thou plaine,
 Thou shoul'dst the wonder of *Iudea* bee.
 But oh thou art not. Hell it selfe lies hid
 Beneath thy heauenly show. Yet neuer wert thou chaste:
 Thou might'st exalt, pull downe, command, forbid,
 And be aboue the wheele of fortune plaste. 1470
 Hadst thou plotted *Herods* massacre,
 That so thy sonne a Monarch might be stilde,
 Not halfe so grievous such an action were,
 As once to thinke, that *Mariam* is defilde.
 Bright workmanship of nature fulli'd ore,
 With pitched darknes now thine end shall bee:
 Thou shalt not liue faire fiend to cozen more,
 With heauy semblance, as thou coustedst mee.
 Yet must I loue thee in despite of death,
 And thou shalt die in the despite of loue: 1480
 For neither shall my loue prolong thy breath,
 Nor shall thy losse of breath my loue remoue.
 I might haue seene thy falsehood in thy face,
 Where coul'dst thou get thy stares that seru'd for eyes?
 Except by theft, and theft is foule disgrace:
 This had appear'd before were *Herod* wise,
 But I'me a sot, a very sot, no better:
 My wisdom long agoe a wandring fell,

THE TRAGEDIE

Thy face incountring it, my wit did fetter,
 And made me for delight my freedome fell. 14 90
 Giue me my heart false creature, tis a wrong,
 My guiltles heart should now with thine be flaine:
 Thou hadst no right to looke it vp so long,
 And with vsurpers name I *Mariam* staine.

Enter Bu:

He: Haue you design'd *Sobemus* to his end? (guard

Bu: I haue my Lord. *Herod:* Then call our royall
 To doe as much for *Mariam*, they offend
 Leaue ill vnblam'd, or good without reward.
 Here take her to her death. Come backe, come backe, 1500
 What ment I to depriue the world of light:
 To muffle *Iury* in the foulest blacke,
 That euer was an opposite to white.

Why whither would you carrie her: *Sould:* you bad
 We should conduct her to her death my Lord.

Hero: Wie sure I did not, *Herod* was not mad,
 Why should she feele the furie of the sword?
 Oh now the grieve returnes into my heart,
 And pulles me peecemeale: loue and hate doe fight:
 And now hath boue acquir'd the greater part, 1510
 Yet now hath hate, affection conquer'd quite.
 And therefore beare her hence: and *Hebrew* why
 Seaze you with Lyons pawes the fairest lam
 Of all the flocke? she must not, shall not, die,
 Without her I most miserable am.

And with her more then most, away, away,
 But beare her but to prison not to death:
 And is she gon indeed, stay villaines stay,
 Her lookes alone prefer'd your Soueraignes breath.
 Well let her goe, but yet she shall not die, 1520
 I cannot thinke she ment to poison me:
 But certaine tis she liu'd too wantonly,
 And therefore shall she neuer more be free.

Actus

OF MARIAM.

Actus 4. Scœna 5.

Bu. **F**Oule villaine, can thy pitchie coloured soule
Permit thine eare to heare her caules doome?
And not inforce thy tongue that tale controule,
That must vniustly bring her to her toome.
Oh *Salome* thou hast thy selfe repaid,
For all the benefits that thou hast done: 1530
Thou art the cause I haue the queene betraid,
Thou hast my hart to darkeste false-hood wonne.
I am condemn'd, heau'n gaue me not my tongue
To slander innocents, to lie, deceiue:
To be the hatefull instrument to wrong,
The earth of greatest glory to bereaue.
My sinne ascends and doth to heau'n crie,
It is the blackest deed that euer was:
And there doth sit an Angell notarie,
That doth record it downe in leaues of brasse. 1540
Oh how my heart doth quake: *Achitophel*,
Thou founds a meanes thy selfe from shame to free:
And sure my soule approues thou didst not well,
All follow some, and I will follow thee.

Actus 4. Scœna 6.

Constabarus, Babus Sonnes, and their guard.

Const. **N**OW here we step our last, the way to death,
We must not tread this way a second time:
Yet let vs resolutely yeeld our breath,
Death is the onely ladder, Heau'n to clime. (resigne, 1550
Babus 1. Sonne. With willing mind I could my selfe
But yet it grieues me with a grieve vntold:
Our death should be accompani'd with thine,
Our friendship we to thee haue dearly fold.

Const.

THE TRAGEDIE

Const. Still wilt thou wrong the sacred name of friend?
 Then should'st thou neuer stile it friendship more:
 But base mechanicke traffique that doth lend,
 Yet will be sure they shall the debt restore.
 I could with needleffe complement returne,
 Tis for thy ceremonie I could say: 1560
 Tis I that made the fire your house to burne,
 For but for me she would not you betray.
 Had not the damned woman fought mine end,
 You had not bene the subiect of her hate:
 You neuer did her hatefull minde offend,
 Nor could your deaths haue freed your nuptiall fate
 Therefore faire friends, though you were still vnborne,
 Some other subtiltie deuifde should bee:
 Were by my life, though guiltles should be torne,
 Thus haue I prou'd, tis you that die for mee. 1570
 And therefore should I weakely now lament,
 You haue but done your duties, friends should die:
 Alone their friends difaster to preuent,
 Though not compeld by strong necessitie.
 But now farewell faire citie, neuer more
 Shall I behold your beautie shining bright:
 Farewell of *Iewish* men the worthy store,
 But no farewell to any female wight.
 You wauering crue: my curse to you I leaue,
 You had but one to giue you any grace: 1580
 And you your selues will *Mariams* life bereaue,
 Your common-wealth doth innocencie chafe.
 You creatures made to be the humane curse,
 You Tygers, Lyoneffes, hungry Beares,
 Teare maffacring *Hienas*: nay far worse,
 For they for pray doe shed their fained teares.
 But you will weepe, (you creatures crosse to good)
 For your vnquenched thirst of humane blood:
 You were the Angels cast from heau'n for pride,
 And still doe keepe your Angels outward shew, 1590
 But none of you are inly beautifide,
 For still your heau'n depriuing pride doth grow.

Did

OF MARIAM.

Did not the finnes of many require a scourge,
 Your place on earth had bene by this withstood:
 But since a flood no more the world must purge,
 You staid in office of a second flood.
 You giddy creatures, fowers of debate,
 You'll loue to day, and for no other cause,
 But for you yesterday did deply hate,
 You are the wreake of order, breach of lawes. 1600
 You best, are foolish, froward, wanton, vaine,
 Your worst adulterous, murderous, cunning, proud:
 And *Salome* attends the latter traine,
 Or rather he their leader is allowd.
 I do the sottishnesse of men bewaile,
 That doe with following you inhanche your pride:
 T'were better that the humane race should faile,
 Then be by such a mischief multiplide.
Chams seruile curse to all your sexe was giuen,
 Because in Paradise you did offend: 1610
 Then doe we not resist the will of Heauen,
 When on your willes like seruants we attend?
 You are to nothing constant but to ill,
 You are with nought but wickednesse indude:
 Your loues are set on nothing but your will,
 And thus my censure I of you conclude.
 You are the least of goods, the worst of euils,
 Your best are worse then men: your worst then diuels.

Babus second sonne.

Come let vs to our death: are we not blest? 1620
 Our death will freedome from these creatures giue:
 Those trouble quiet fowers of vnrest,
 And this I vow that had I leaue to liue,
 I would for euer leade a single life,
 And neuer venter on a diuellish wife.

THE TRAGEDIE

Actus 4. Scœna 7.

Herod and Salome.

Herod.

NAY, she shall die. Die quoth you, that she shall :
 But for the meanes. The meanes! Me thinks tis 1630
 To finde a meanes to murther her withall, (hard
 Therefore I am resolu'd she shall be spar'd.

Salom. Why? let her be beheaded. *Her.* That were
 Thinke you that swords are miracles like you: (well,
 Her skinne will eu'ry Curtlax edge refell,
 And then your enterprife you well may rue.
 What if the fierce Arabian notice take,
 Of this your wretched weaponlesse estate:
 They answere when we bid resistance make,
 That *Mariams* skinne their fanchions did rebate. 1640
 Beware of this, you make a goodly hand,
 If you of weapons doe deprive our Land.

Sal. Why drowne her then. *Herod* Indeed a sweet de-
 Why? would not eu'ry Riuer turne her course (uice,
 Rather then doe her beautie preiudice?
 And be reuerted to the proper course.
 So not a drop of water should be found
 In all Iudeas quondam firtill ground

Sal. Then let the fire deuoure her. *Her* T'will not
 Flame is from her deriu'd into my heart: (bee: 1650
 Thou nurfest flame, flame will not murther thee,
 My fairest *Mariam*, fullest of desert. (die:

Salom. Then let her liue for me. *Herod.* Nay, she shall
 But can you liue without her? *Sal* doubt you that?

Herod. I'me sure I cannot, I beseech you trie:
 I haue experience but I know not what.

Salom How should I try? *Her.* Why let my loue be
 But if we cannot liue without her fight (flaine,
 You'l'e

OF MARIAM.

Youle finde the meanes to make her breathe againe,
Or else you will bereaue my comfort quite. 1660

Sal Oh I: I warrant you *Herod*. What is she gone?
And gone to bid the world be ouerthrowne:
What? is her hearts compofure hardeft ftone?
To what a paffe are cruell women growne?
She is return'd already: haue you done?
Ift poffible you can command fo foone?

A creatures heart to quench the flaming Sunne,
Or from the skie to wipe away the Moone.

Salo. If *Mariam* be the Sunne and Moone, it is:
For I already haue commanded this. (times. 1670

Her. But haue you feene her cheek? *Sal*. A thoufand

Herod. But did you marke it too? *Sal*. I very well.

Herod. What ift? *Sal*. A Crimfon bufh, that euer limes
The foule whose foresight doth not much excell.

Herod. Send word she fhall not dye. Her cheek a bufh,
Nay, then I fee indeed you markt it not.

Sal. Tis very faire, but yet will neuer blufh,
Though foule difhonors do her forehead blot.

Herod. Then let her die, tis very true indeed,
And for this fault alone fhall *Mariam* bleed. 1680

Sal. What fault my Lord? *Herod*. What fault ift? you
If you be ignorant I know of none, (that afke:
To call her backe from death fhall be your tafke,
I'm glad that she for innocent is knowne.

For on the brow of *Mariam* hangs a Fleece,
Whose flenderest twine is ftrong enough to binde
The hearts of Kings, the pride and fhame of *Greece*,
Troy flaming *Helens* not fo fairely fhinde.

Salom. Tis true indeed, she layes them out for nets,
To catch the hearts that doe not fhune a baite: 1690
Tis time to fpeake: for *Herod* fure forgets
That *Mariams* very trefles hide deceit.

Her. Oh doe they fo? nay, then you doe but well,
Infooth I thought it had beene haire:
Nets call you them? Lord, how they doe excell,
I neuer faw a net that fhew'd fo faire.

THE TRAGEDIE

But haue you heard her speake? *Sal.* You know I haue.

Her. And were you not amaz'd? *Sal.* No, not a whit.

Her. Then t'was not her you heard, her life Ile saue,
For *Mariam* hath a world amazing wit. 1700

Sal. She speaks a beautious language, but within
Her heart is false as powder: and her tongue
Doth but allure the auditors to sinne,
And is the instrument to doe you wrong.

Herod. It may be so: nay, tis so: shee's vnchaste,
Her mouth will ope to eu'ry strangers eare:
Then let the executioner make haite,
Left she inchant him, if her words he heare.
Let him be deafe, left she do him surprife
That shall to free her spirit be assignde: 1710
Yet what boots deafenes if he haue his eyes,
Her murtherer must be both deafe and blinde.
For if he see, he needs must see the starres
That shine on eyther side of *Mariams* face:
Whose sweet aspect will terminate the warres,
Wherewith he should a soule so precious chafe.
Her eyes can speake, and in their speaking moue,
Oft did my heart with reuerence receiue
The worlds mandates. Pretty tales of loue
They vtter, which can humane bondage weaue 1720
But shall I let this heauens modell dye?
Which for a small selfe-portraiture she drew:
Her eyes like starres, her forehead like the skie,
She is like Heauen, and must be heavenly true.

Salom. Your thoughts do raue with doating on the
Her eyes are ebon hewde, and you'll confesse: (Queen,
A fable starre hath beene but seldome seene,
Then speake of reason more, of *Mariam* lesse.

Herod. Your selfe are held a goodly creature heere,
Yet so vnlike my *Mariam* in your shape: 1730
That when to her you haue approached neere,
My selfe hath often tane you for an Ape.
And yet you prate of beautie: goe your waies,
You are to her a Sun-burnt Blackamore:

Your

OF MARIAM.

Your paintings cannot equall *Mariams* praise,
 Her nature is so rich, you are so poore
 Let her be staide from death, for if she die;
 We do we know not what to stop her breath :
 A world cannot another *Mariam* buy,
 Why stay you lingring ? countermaund her death. 1740

Salò Then youle no more remember what hath past,
Sobemus loue, and hers shall be forgot :

Tis well in truth : that fault may be her last,
 And she may mend, though yet she loue you not.

Her: Oh God : tis true. *Sobemus* : earth and heau'n,

Why did you both conspire to make me curst :
 In coufning me with showes, and proofes vneu'n ?
 She show'd the best, and yet did proue the worst.

Her show was such, as had our finging king
 The holy *Dauid*, *Mariams* beautie seene : 1750

The *Hittits* had then felt no deadly sting,

Nor *Bethsabe* had neuer bene a Queene.

Or had his sonne the wisest man of men,
 Whose fond delight did most consist in change :

Beheld her face, he had bene staid agen,
 No creature hauing her, can wish to range.

Had *Asuerus* seene my *Mariams* brow,
 The humble *Iewe*, she might haue walkt alone :

Her beautilous vertue should haue staid below,
 Whiles *Mariam* mounted to the Persian throne. 1760

But what auailles it all : for in the waight

She is deceitfull, light as vanitie :

Oh she was made for nothing but a bait,

To traine some haples man to miserie.

I am the haples man that haue bene trande,

To endles bondage. I will see her yet :

Me thinkes I should discerne her if she fainde,

Can humane eyes be dazde by womans wit ?
 Once more these eyes of mine with hers shall meet,

Before the headfman doe her life bereaue : 1770

Shall I for euer part from thee my sweet ?

Without the taking of my latest leaue.

THE TRAGEDIE

Salo: You had as good resolute to save her now,
 Ile stay her death, tis well determined:
 For sure she neuer more will breake her vow,
Sobemus and *Iosephus* both are dead.

Herod She shall not live, nor will I see her face,
 A long heald wound, a second time doth bleed:
 With *Ioseph* I remember her disgrace,
 A shamefull end ensues a shamefull deed. 1780
 Oh that I had not cald to minde anew,
 The discontent of *Mariams* wauering hart:
 Twas you: you foule mouth'd *Ate*, none but you,
 That did the thought hereof to me impart.
 Hence from my sight, my blacke tormenter hence,
 For hadst not thou made *Herod* vnsecure:
 I had not doubted *Mariams* innocence,
 But still had held her in my heart for pure

Salo: Ile leaue you to your passion: tis no time
 To purge me now, though of a guiltles crime. (*Exit.* 1790)

Herod. Destruction take thee: thou hast made
 As heauie as reuenge, I am so dull, (my hart
 Me thinks I am not sensible of smart,
 Though hiddious horrors at my bosome pull.
 My head waies downwards: therefore will I goe
 To try if I can sleepe away my woe. :

Actus 4. Scoena. 8.

Mariam.

AM I the *Mariam* that presum'd so much, (breath?
 And deem'd my face must needs preferue my 1800
 I, I it was that thought my beautie such,
 At it alone could countermaund my death.
 Now death will teach me: he can pale aswell
 A cheeke of roses, as a cheeke lesse bright:
 And dim an eye whose shine doth most excell,
 Assoone as one that casts a meaner light.

Had

OF MARIAM.

Had not my selfe againſt my ſelfe conſpirde,
 No plot: no aduerſarie from without
 Could *Herods* loue from *Mariam* haue retirde,
 Or from his heart haue thruſt my ſemblance out. 1810
 The wanton Queene that neuer lou'd for loue,
 Falſe *Cleopatra*, wholly ſet on gaine:
 With all her flights did proue: yet vainly proue,
 For her the loue of *Herod* to obtaine.
 Yet her allurements, all her courtly guile,
 Her ſmiles, her fauours, and her ſmooth deceit:
 Could not my face from *Herods* minde exile,
 But were with him of leſſe then little weight.
 That face and perſon that in *Asia* late
 For beauties Goddeſſe *Paphos* Queene was tane: 1820
 That face that did captiue great *Iulius* fate,
 That very face that was *Antbonius* bane.
 That face that to be *Egipts* pride was borne,
 That face that all the world eſteem'd ſo rare:
 Did *Herod* hate, deſpiſe, neglect, and ſcorne,
 When with the ſame, he *Mariams* did compare.
 This made that I improuidently wrought,
 And on the wager euen my life did pawne:
 Becauſe I thought, and yet but truly thought,
 That *Herods* loue could not from me be drawne. 1830
 But now though out of time, I plainly ſee
 It could be drawne, though neuer drawne from me:
 Had I but with humilitie bene grac'te,
 As well as faire I might haue prou'd me wiſe:
 But I did thinke becauſe I knew me chaſte,
 One vertue for a woman, might ſuffice.
 That mind for glory of our ſexe might ſtand,
 Wherein humilitie and chaſtitie
 Doth march with equall paces hand in hand,
 But one if ſingle ſeene, who ſetteth by? 1840
 And I had ſingly one, but tis my ioy,
 That I was euer innocent, though ſower:
 And therefore can they but my life deſtroy,
 My Soule is free from aduerſaries power.) *Enter Doris.*
 You

THE TRAGEDIE

You Princes great in power, and high in birth,
 Be great and high, I enuy not your hap:
 Your birth must be from dust: your power on earth,
 In heau'n shall *Mariam* sit in *Saraes* lap. (thither,

Doris. I heau'n, your beautie cannot bring you
 Your soule is blacke and spotted, full of sinne: 1850
 You in adultry liu'd nine yeare together,
 And heau'n will neuer let adultry in

Mar. What art thou that dost poore *Mariam* pursue?
 Some spirit sent to driue me to dispaire:
 Who sees for truth that *Mariam* is vntrue,
 If faire she be, she is as chaste as faire.

Doris. I am that *Doris* that was once belou'd,
 Belou'd by *Herod*: *Herods* lawfull wife:
 Twas you that *Doris* from his side remou'd,
 And rob'd from me the glory of my life. 1860

Mar. Was that adultry: did not Moses say,
 That he that being matcht did deadly hate:
 Might by permission put his wife away,
 And take a more belou'd to be his mate?

Doris. What did he hate me for: for simple truth?
 For bringing beautilous babes for loue to him:
 For riches: noble birth, or tender youth,
 Or for no staine did *Doris* honour dim?
 Oh tell me *Mariam*, tell me if you knowe,
 Which fault of these made *Herod* *Doris* foe 1870
 These thrice three yeares haue I with hands held vp,
 And bowed knees fast nailed to the ground:
 Befought for thee the dreggs of that same cup,
 That cup of wrath that is for sinners found
 And now thou art to drinke it: *Doris* curse,
 Vpon thy selfe did all this while attend,
 But now it shall pursue thy children worse.

Mar. Oh *Doris* now to thee my knees I bend,
 That hart that neuer bow'd to thee doth bow:
 Curse not mine infants, let it thee suffice, 1880
 That Heau'n doth punishment to me allow.
 Thy curse is cause that guiltles *Mariam* dies.

Doris.

OF MARIAM.

Doris. Had I ten thousand tongues, and eu'ry tongue
 Inflam'd with poisons power, and steept in gall:
 My curses would not answere for my wrong,
 Though I in cursing thee imployd them all.
 Heare thou that didst mount *Gerarim* command,
 To be a place whereon with cause to curse:
 Stretch thy reuenging arme: thrust forth thy hand,
 And plague the mother much: the children worse. 1890
 Throw flaming fire vpon the baseborne heads
 That were begotten in vnlawfull beds.
 But let them liue till they haue sence to know
 What tis to be in miserable state:
 Then be their neereft friends their ouerthrow,
 Attended be they by suspitious hate.
 And *Mariam*, I doe hope this boy of mine
 Shall one day come to be the death of thine. *Exit.*

Mariam. Oh! Heauen forbid. I hope the world shall
 This curse of thine shall be return'd on thee: (see, 1900
 Now earth farewell, though I be yet but yong,
 Yet I, me thinks, haue knowne thee too too long. *Exit.*

Chorus.

THe fairest action of our humane life,
 Is scorning to reuenge an iniurie:
 For who forgiues without a further strife,
 His aduersaries heart to him doth tie.
 And tis a firmer conquest truely sed,
 To winne the heart, then ouerthrow the head.

If we a worthy enimie doe finde, 1910
 To yeeld to worth, it must be nobly done:
 But if of baser mettall be his minde,
 In base reuenge there is no honor wonne.
 Who would a worthy courage ouerthrow,
 And who would wrastle with a worthles foe?

H

We

THE TRAGEDIE

Who did her death (sweet Queene) no whit bewaile, ⁊
 But as if nature she did quite forget,
 She did vpon her daughter loudly raile.

Herod. Why stopt you not her mouth? where had she
 To darke that, that Heauen made so bright? (words 1980
 Our sacred tongue no *Epithite* affords,
 To call her other then the worlds delight.

Nun. Shee told her that her death was too too good,
 And that already she had liu'd too long:
 She said, she sham'd to haue a part in blood
 Of her that did the princely *Herod* wrong. (glory,

Herod Bafe picke-thanke Diuell Shame, twas all her
 That she to noble *Mariam* was the mother:
 But neuer shall it liue in any storie
 Her name, except to infamy ile smother. 1990

What answere did her princely daughter make?

Nun She made no answere, but she lookt the while,
 As if thereof she scarce did notice take,
 Yet smile, a dutifull, though scornefull smile

Her. Sweet creature, I that looke to mind doe call,
 Full oft hath *Herod* bene amaz'd withall.

Nun. Go on, she came vn mou'd with pleasant grace,
 As if to triumph her arriual were:
 In stately habite, and with cheefull face:
 Yet eu'ry eye was moyft, but *Mariams* there. 2000
 When iustly opposite to me she came,
 She pickt me out from all the crue:

She beckned to me, cald me by my name,
 For she my name, my birth, and fortune knew

Herod What did she name thee? happy, happy man,
 Wilt thou not euer loue that name the better?
 But what sweet tune did this faire dying Swan
 Afford thine eare: tell all, omit no letter.

Nun. Tell thou my Lord, said she. *Her* Mee, ment she
 Ist true, the more my shame: I was her Lord, (mee? 2010
 Were I not made her Lord, I still should bee:

But

OF MARIAM.

But now her¹ name must be by me adord.

Oh say, what said she more? each word she fed
Shall be the food whereon my heart is fed. (breath

Nun. Tell thou my Lord thou saw'st me loose my

Herod. Oh that I could that sentence now controule.

Nun. If guiltily eternall be my death,

Her. I hold her chaste eu'n in my inmost soule

Nun. By three daies hence if wishes could reuiue,
I know himselfe would make me oft aliue

2020

Herod. Three daies: three houres, three minutes, not
A minute in a thousand parts diuided, (so much,
My penitencie for her death is such,
As in the first I wisht she had not died.

But forward in thy tale *Nun.* Why on she went,

And after she some silent praier had fed:

She did as if to die she were content,

And thus to heau'n her heau'nly soule is fled

Herod. But art thou sure there doth no life remaine?

Is't possible my *Mariam* should be dead,

2030

Is there no tricke to make her breathe againe?

Nun. Her body is diuided from her head (art,

Her. Why yet me thinkes there might be found by
Strange waies of cure, tis sure rare things are don:
By an inuentiue head, and willing heart.

Nun. Let not my Lord your fancies idly run.

It is as possible it should be seene,

That we should make the holy Abraham liue,

Though he intomb'd two thousand yeares had bene,

As breath againe to slaughtred *Mariam* giue

2040

But now for more assaults prepare your eares,

Herod. There cannot be a further cause of mone,
This accident shall shelter me from feares:

What can I feare? already *Mariams* gone.

Yet tell eu'n what you will: *Nun.* As I came by,

From *Mariams* death I saw vpon a tree,

A man that to his necke a cord did tie:

THE TRAGEDIE

Which cord he had design'd his end to bee.
 When me he once discern'd, he downwards bow'd,
 And thus with fearefull voyce she cride alowd,
 2050
 Goe tell the King he trusted ere he tride,
 I am the cause that *Mariam* causeles dide.

Herod Damnation take him, for it was the slaue
 That said she ment with poisons deadly force
 To end my life that she the Crowne might haue:
 Which tale did *Mariam* from her selfe diuorce.
 Oh pardon me thou pure vnspotted Ghost,
 My punishment must needes sufficient bee,
 In missing that content I valued most:
 Which was thy admirable face to see
 2060
 I had but one inestimable Iewell,
 Yet one I had no monarch had the like,
 And therefore may I curse my selfe as cruell:
 Twas broken by a blowe my selfe did strike.
 I gaz'd thereon and neuer thought me blest,
 But when on it my dazled eye might rest:
 A pretious Mirror made by wonderous art,
 I prizd it ten times dearer then my Crowne,
 And laide it vp fast foulded in my heart:
 Yet I in suddaine choler cast it downe.
 2070
 And pasht it all to peeces: twas no foe,
 That robd me of it; no *Arabian* host,
 Nor no *Armenian* guide hath vsde me so:
 But *Herods* wretched selfe hath *Herod* crost
 She was my gracefull moytie, me accurst,
 To slay my better halfe and saue my worst.
 But sure she is not dead you did but iest,
 To put me in perplexitie a while,
 Twere well indeed if I could so be drest:
 I see she is aliue, me thinkes you smile
 2080
Nun. If fainted *Abel* yet deceased bee,
 Tis certaine *Mariam* is as dead as hee.

Her. Why then goe call her to me, bid her now

Put

OF MARIAM.

Put on faire habite, stately ornament:
And let no frowne oreshade her smootheſt brow,
In her doth *Herod* place his whole content. (ſence,

Nun. Sheel come in ſtately weedes to pleaſe your
If now ſhe come attirde in robe of heauen:
Remember you your ſelfe did ſend her hence,
And now to you ſhe can no more be giuen. faire, 2090

Herod. Shee's dead, hell take her murderers, ſhe was
Oh what a hand ſhe had, it was ſo white,
It did the whitenes of the ſnowe impaire:
I neuer more ſhall ſee ſo ſweet a ſight. (hands;

Nun. Tis true, her hand was rare. *Her.* her hand? her
She had not ſingly one of beautie rare,
But ſuch a paire as heere where *Herod* ſtands,
He dares the world to make to both compare.
Accurſed *Salome*, haſt thou bene ſtill,
My *Mariam* had bene breathing by my ſide: 2100
Oh neuer had I: had I had my will,
Sent forth command, that *Mariam* ſhould haue dide.

But *Salome* thou didſt with enuy vexe,
To ſee thy ſelfe out-matched in thy ſexe:
Vpon your ſexes forehead *Mariam* ſat,
To grace you all like an imperiall crowne,
But you fond foole haue rudely puſht thereat,
And proudly puld your proper glory downe.
One ſmile of hers: Nay, not ſo much a: looke
Was worth a hundied thouſand ſuch as you, 2110
Iudea how canſt thou the wretches brooke,
That robd from thee the faireſt of the crew?
You dwellers in the now deſtroyed land,
Wherein the matchles *Mariam* was bred:
Why graſpe not each of you a ſword in hand,
To ayme at me your cruell Soueraignes head.
Oh when you thinke of *Herod* as your King,
And owner of the pride of *Paleſtine*:

This act to your remembrance likewise bring,

Tis

THE TRAGEDIE

Tis I haue ouerthrowne your royall line. 2120
 Within her purer vaines the blood did run,
 That from her Grandam *Sara* she deriu'd,
 Whose beldame age the loue of Kings hath wonne,
 Oh that her issue had as long bene li'ud.
 But can her eye be made by death obscure?
 I cannot thinke but it must sparkle still:
 Foule sacriledge to rob those lights so pure,
 From out a Temple made by heau'nly skill.
 I am the Villaine that haue done the deed,
 The cruell deed, though by anothers hand, 2130
 My word though not my sword made *Mariam* bleed,
Hircanus Grandchild did at my command.
 That *Mariam* that I once did loue so deare,
 The partner of my now detested bed,
 Why shine you sun with an aspect so cleare?
 I tell you once againe my *Mariams* dead
 You could but shine, if some *Egyptian* blows,
 Or *Æthiopian* doudy lose her life:
 This was, then wherefore bend you not your brows,
 The King of *Iuries* faire and spotles wife 2140
 Denie thy beames, and *Moone* refuse thy light,
 Let all the starres be darke, let *Iuries* eye
 No more distinguish which is day and night:
 Since her best birth did in her bosome die.
 Those fond Idolaters the men of *Greece*,
 Maintaine these orbes are safely gouerned:
 That each within themselues haue Gods a peece,
 By whom their stedfast course is iustly led.
 But were it so, as so it cannot bee,
 They all would put their mourning garments on: 2150
 Not one of them would yeeld a light to mee,
 To me that is the cause that *Mariams* gon
 For though they faine their *Saturne* melancholy,
 Of fowre behauiours, and of angry moode:
 They faine him likewise to be iust and holy,

And

OF MARIAM.

And iustice needes must seeke reuenge for blood.
 Their *Ioue*, if *Ioue* he were, would sure desire,
 To punish him that slew so faire a lasse:
 For *Lædaes* beautie set his heart on fire,
 Yet she not halfe so faire as *Mariam* was. 2160
 And *Mars* would deeme his *Venus* had bene flaine,
Sol to recouer her would neuer sticke:
 For if he want the power her life to gaine:
 Then Physicks God is but an Empericke.
 The Queene of loue would storme for beauties sake,
 And *Hermes* too, since he bestow'd her wit,
 The nights pale light for angrie grieve would shake,
 To see chaste *Mariam* die in age vnfit
 But oh I am deceiu'd, she past them all
 In euery gift, in euery propertie: 2170
 Her Excellencies wrought her timeles fall,
 And they reioyc'd, not grieu'd to see her die.
 The *Paphian* Goddesse did repent her wast,
 When she to one such beautie did allow:
Mercurius thought her wit his wit furpast,
 And *Cynthia* enui'd *Mariams* brighter brow.
 But these are fictions, they are voyd of sence,
 The *Greekes* but dreame, and dreaming falsehoods tell:
 They neither can offend nor giue defence,
 And not by them it was my *Mariam* fell. 2180
 If she had bene like an *Egyptian* blacke,
 And not so faire, she had bene longer liude:
 Her ouerflow of beautie turned backe,
 And drownde the spring from whence it was deriude.
 Her heau'nly beautie twas that made me thinke
 That it with chastitie could neuer dwell:
 But now I see that heau'n in her did linke,
 A spirit and a person to excell
 Ile muffle vp my selfe in endles night,
 And neuer let mine eyes behold the light. 2190
 Retire thy selfe vile monster, worse then hee

THE TRAGEDIE

That staine the virgin earth with brothers blood,
 Still in some vault or denne inclosed bee,
 Where with thy teares thou maist beget a flood,
 Which flood in time may drowne thee: happie day
 When thou at once shalt die and finde a graue,
 A stone vpon the vault, some one shall lay,
 Which monument shall an inscription haue.
 And these shall be the words it shall containe,
Heere Herod lies, that hath his Mariam slaine.

2200

Chorus.

WHO euer hath beheld with steadfast eye,
 The strange euent of this one onely day:
 How many were deceiu'd? How many die,
 That once to day did grounds of safetie lay?
 It will from them all certaintie bereue,
 Since twice fixe houres so many can deceiue.

This morning *Herod* held for surely dead,
 And all the *Jewes* on *Mariam* did attend:
 And *Constabarus* rise from *Saloms* bed,
 And neither dreamd of a diuorce or end.
Pheroras ioyd that he might haue his wife,
 And *Babus* sonnes for safetie of their life

2210

To night our *Herod* doth aliue remaine,
 The guiltles *Mariam* is depriu'd of breath:
 Stout *Constabarus* both diuorst and flaine,
 The valiant sonnes of *Baba* haue their death.
Pheroras fure his loue to be bereft,
 If *Salome* her fute vnmade had left.

Herod this morning did expect with ioy,
 To see his *Mariams* much beloued face:
 And yet ere night he did her life destroy,

2220

And

OF MARIAM.

And surely thought she did her name disgrace.
Yet now againe so short do humors last,
He both repents her death and knowes her chaste.

Had he with wisedome now her death delaide,
He at his pleasure might command her death:
But now he hath his power so much betraide,
As all his woes cannot restore her breath.

Now doth he strangely lunatically raue,
Because his *Mariams* life he cannot saue.

2230

This daies euent was certainly ordainde,
To be the warning to posteritie:
So many changes are therein containde,
So admirable strange varietie.

This day alone, our sagest *Hebrewes* shall
In after times the schoole of wisedome call.

FINIS.

